My 29 L '22

COMEDY FOR EVER
BY
STANLEY LUPINO
See Page 11.

THE ERA

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STANLEY LUPINO.
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MISS FLORRIE FORDE.
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MISS HETTY KING.
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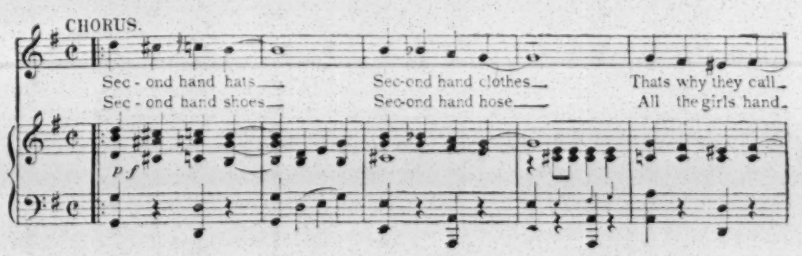

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NOTE.—Advertisements for insertion in the current issue are accepted up to first post Tuesday morning, or over the counter up to 11 a.m. Tuesday.

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NEW THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
Sept. 4, 18, Oct. 23, 30, Nov. 6, 20, on.
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Apply, S. C. DORRILL.

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Concert Party Season extended through August.
WANTED, only No. 1 Companies. Bank Holiday week, August 14, 21, 28, Sept. 4 and 11.
Theatrical Season commences September. Wanted, Musical Plays and Strong Shows with London titles. Full Variety Combinations, &c.
Address, S. SLINGER, as above.

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WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 7, 14, Sept. 4, 11.
Apply,
Lyceum,
Edinburgh.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
WANTED, Managers of Once-nightly Touring Attractions to submit particulars and terms.
For the past nine years only Twice-nightly Drama, Revue, and Pantomime have been booked, consequently Walsall is now
VIRGIN GROUND
for
ONCE-NIGHTLY ATTRACTIONS,
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Managers desiring to participate apply to
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Her Majesty's Theatre,
Walsall.

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PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, first-class Revues or Musical Comedies, June 12 and 19.
Address, MANAGING DIRECTOR.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
Manager, J. E. Bull.
WANTED, First-class West-End Attractions for Oct. 2 (?), 23, Nov. 13, 20.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
Population, 130,000.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. Population within 2 miles, 150,000. Six miles apart.
WANTED, Companies.
Vacancies in Autumn and Spring for Big West-End Successes, to follow D'Oyly Carte Opera Co., Matheson Lang's Co. in "The Wandering Jew," Geo. Edwardes' "The Lady of the Rose," Geo. Edwardes' "Whirl Into Happiness," Geo. Edwardes' "The Maid of the Mountains," "Chu Chin Chow," "Sally," &c., &c.
Address, CHARLES REVILL,
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BLACKPOOL. GRAND THEATRE.
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WANTED, Good Revue or Musical Show.
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Wire LAWRENCE,
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'Phone 2533 Leicester.

COMPANIES WANTED.

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WANTED, High-class Attractions.
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GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
Oct. 9, onwards.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE,
June 19, July 3, 10.
PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE,
Sept. 4, Oct. 9, 16, 30.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING,
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Apply, 52, Shaftesbury avenue, W.1. Regent 1651. "Topobill, Piccy, London."

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ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
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The above magnificent theatre having been redecorated, also new heating apparatus installed, will re-open under new management.
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All coms., C. TAYLOR LAWSON.

GRAND PAVILION THEATRE, LLANDRINDOD WELLS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. June 12, 19, July 3, Sept. 11, 21, 22, 23 (3), 25, and Oct. 2, on. Three days same attractions. Full pars. and sharing terms, W. ALEC MILLWARD, as above.

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WANTED, First-class Attractions only, June 12, July 31.
Also
A Very Big Attraction for Aug. 7.
(Bank Holiday week).
So that Mr. Owen Nares can transfer his date.
Many thanks to several managers for offers.
A DOUGLASS.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
O.H., BELFAST, Aug. 14, 21, Sept. 4.
O.H., CORK, June 26, Aug. 14, 21, 28.
P.T., WESTCLIFF, May 29.
L.T., NEWPORT, June 19, Aug. 7.
All vacant through obliging managers
Apply,
THE FREDK. MOUILLOT OFFICES,
7 and 8, Leicester-place, W.C.2.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
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REPERTORY THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Under Management Misses Viola and Ellen Compton.
Vacant dates: July 24, Aug. 21.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Not Musical Comedy.

WANTED, Big Attraction, May 29, June 5, LUTON and BEDFORD. Wire, FALCON, Fort Augustus.

WANTED, Up-to-date Plays for Stock. MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Stockton.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, No. 1 Attraction, Aug. 28.
OTTO C. CULLING,
Booth Cot, East Sheen, S.W.14.

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WANTED, Monday, also May 29, onwards.
Wanted, First-class Revues, Star Variety Combinations.

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WANTED, for June 26, Aug. 14, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, good Musical Comedy or Comedy. Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, Latest London Successes only for big Music Halls, North of England and Scotland, May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 26, July 3, 17, 24, 31, Aug. 7 and 28. Full date sheets and lowest sharing terms to HORSFIELD'S AGENCY, Office 21, 26, Charing Cross-rd., W.C.2.

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The "Real Thing" in Western Plays.
"YOUNG BUFFALO."
Supported by a specially selected company of English and American Artists.
The Lyceum Theatre Production.
"THE SAVAGE AND THE WOMAN."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, with large holding capacity, May 22, July 3, 10, on, with exceptions. A. MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.2.

"MR. PIM PASSES BY."
By A. A. Milne.
Now being played at the Globe Theatre, W.
WANTED, for the No. 1 Co., including Miss Georgina Wynter, July 24, 31, and onwards. Bookings include:—T.R., Birmingham; Grand, Croydon; Artillery, Woolwich; Brighton, Eastbourne, Torquay, Clacton, &c. DUDLEY STUART, Palace Cinema, Raunds, Northants.

"DADDALUMS."
Including Edward Irwin.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, May 22, June 5, 12.
"A WHITE MAN."
By Edwin Milton Royal.
Wanted, Theatres, with large holding capacity,
May 22, June 26, July 3, 10.
onwards.
Alexander Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO."
Wanted, May 22, June 5, Aug. 7, onwards.
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."
By Charles Darrell.
Wanted, July 24, Aug. 7, onwards.
"MARRIAGE BELLS."
By Andrew Emm.
Wanted, June 5, 26, July 17, Aug. 7, onwards.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Lyceum T., W.C.2.

WANTED, first-class Theatres.
THE H. B. PHILLIPS OPERA CO.
(Late N. Section, Carl Rosa Co.).
A few late Autumn and Spring.
CHAS. KENYON'S CO.,
"THE WHEEL."
The great Apollo Theatre success.
Aug. 14, only date this year.
JACK ESMOND'S CO.
"ELIZA COMES TO STAY,"
The Record-Breaker.
Aug. 7, Sept. 25, and later.
W. PAYNE SEDDON'S CO.,
"ELIZA COMES TO STAY,"
Oct. 9, 30.
Sole Booking Managers,
THE FREDK. MOUILLOT OFFICES,
7 and 8, Leicester-place, W.C.2.

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KATHARINE MORRIS
presents
"LOVE AMONG THE PAINT POTS,"
"LOVE AMONG THE PAINT POTS,"
By arrangement with Reandean.
All the original scenery and dresses from the Aldwych Theatre.

WANTED, June 5, June 5, June 5, to follow T.R., Plymouth, also June 12 and on.

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THOS. C. DAGNALL'S TOURS.

"AMBROSE APPLEJOHN'S ADVENTURE."
By Walter Hackett.
The Outstanding Success of the Present Season.
WANTED,
The following dates are Vacant for Autumn, 1922: July 31, Sept. 25.

"LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY."
By Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare.
From the Criterion Theatre, London, where it ran for nearly 600 performances.
The following dates are Vacant in the various companies:—
Aug. 28, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, 9, and 30, Nov. 6.

All communications to
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Criterion Theatre, W.

Under the Direction of Nelson King.
FRANK FORBES-ROBERTSON
in
A Repertoire of Selected Plays, including
"THE CALL OF THE ROAD."
WANTED, No. 1 Theatres Only.
Autumn, 1922, and Spring, 1923.
NELSON KING, this Grand, Southampton. Next, O.H., Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED,
May 22, to follow Chesterfield, for
"TAKE ALL."
The record-breaking Revue with a Plot.
Wire, MORRIS, Palace, Lincoln.

ERNEST R. ABBOTT'S CO.
WANTED, May 22, 29, June 5, and on, with exceptions. Open for season of three or more weeks. Big repertoire of high-class drama, music, singing, and dancing. Cast of 14. Wire for May 22.
ABBOTT, Hippodrome, Bilston.

WANTED, May 22.
May 22.
"SHIP AHOY!"
"SHIP AHOY!"
Printing Ready.
Wire, GALLIMORE,
Victory Theatre, Ripley.

"THE YOUNG PERSON IN PINK."
DONALD CALTHROP'S
Success from the Haymarket, Aldwych, and Queen's Theatres, London.

WANTED, Season Dates.
August 3, 4, 5 (?),
August 3, 4, 5 (?),
August 7, 8, 9, or week.
August 7, 8, 9, or week.
August 21.
August 21.

ERIC LESLIE.
Castle Hotel, Bramber, Sussex.
P.A., 53 Kenilworth Court, Putney, S.W.15.

WANTED, through obliging, May 22, June 5, 12, by the Spectacular Musical Comedy Revue,
"VENUSES OF 1922."
"VENUSES OF 1922."
22 People, 7 Scenes, Chorus, Scenery, and Dresses incomparable.
Wire, King's Theatre, Gainsborough.
Good theatres and large stage essential.

WANTED, for "YES, UNCLE," Aug. 14, 21, Sept. 25, Oct. 2; "A NIGHT OUT," Aug. 14; "BLUE LAGOON," Aug. 7, Oct. 30; "KISSING TIME," Sept. 4, 18, Oct. 9. Coms., T. C. WRAY, 28, Floral-street.

WANTED, Monday next.
THE FAMOUS BRITANNICS.
From the Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth.
Wire,
GEORGE DERRICKE, Roundwood Park, Willesden, London.

ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S CO.,
"AT THE VILLA ROSE."
From the Strand Theatre, London.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. June 12 (to follow Buxton), also June 19 and onwards. Wire or write, BAILEY, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

WANTED, No. 1 Theatre or Music Hall, May 29 and June 5, for successful West End Farcical Comedy with London cast. HORSFIELD Offices 21 and 22, 26, Charing Cross-rd., W.C.2. Telephone, Gerrard 7167.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
MISS ETHEL WARWICK,
in
"ZAZA."
May 22, 29, June 5.
Wire, HEATON GREY, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Next week, 43, Whitcomb-st., London, W.C.2

WANTED, Theatres, once or twice nightly, for
"THE ROTTERS,"
May 29,
Aug. 21, Sept. 25, Oct. 9 and on.
Apply, ARTHUR GIBBONS,
Red Lion Hotel, Pontefract.

"THE SKIN GAME"
(By arrangement with Reandean, Ltd.).
WANTED, June 5.
Wanted, June 5.
Wanted, June 5.
A big Holiday Attraction.
All coms., PENRHYN FORSTER,
13 Pump Court, Temple, E.C.4.
Wires, Forster, 15, Temple, London.

WANTED, Monday next, May 22, Midlands or North.
FRED D'ALBERT REPERTOIRE CO.
FRED D'ALBERT REPERTOIRE CO.

VACANT, MAY 22, 29.
Wire for Monday.
Printing ready.
Electric Theatre, Barking.

NOTE. — For special "Theatres Wanted" announcements of members of the Association of Touring Managers see page 5.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, rehearse at once, first-class Artists for Stock. Full particulars, first letter, MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Stockton.

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for important British productions; photos. essential. SIDNEY JAY'S AGENCY, 181, Wardour-street, W.1. 'Phone, Regent 4329.

WANTED, Artists of every description. Please write for appointment to REG. DALE, Manager, Milgrom's Concert Direction, 324, Regent-street, W. Langham 2714.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, several; must be tall, smart, good movers, for Revue. Call, between 3 and 4 o'clock, Wednesday, MAURICE BERTRAM, 50a, Sutherland-square, Walworth-rd.

WANTED, lady, to join Comedian, on the halls, or in Revue, as Double Act. Apply, with photo, age, &c., expenses to be shared, Box 357, "The Era."

IDA LILLE.
WANTED, All-round Dancers, Spring Productions. Also Smart, Intelligent Pupils. Pantos., Troupes, Solo. Call, 79, New Oxford-street, W.C.1.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, DOLLY VERNON, Sop., Soub. Dancer, also Low Comedy Girl; experienced and versatile; unexpectedly vacant for Season; C.P., R., M.C., &s. Wire or write, Hawkin's Temperance Hotel, Cranbrook, Kent.

Bob Harry
FAME and FORTUNE.
Comedians.
A Pair of Natural Fun Providers.
WANTED, June 12, on, for Revue Parts and two good Specialties. Could also accept a few fêtes and galas, June, July and Aug. Now get busy and book this act, it's worth it. Also Vacant Pantomime. Thanks to B. Seener, Esq., for offer. Can only accept reasonable terms. Apply, this week, His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen. Permanent address, 10, Lyceum-avenue, Blackpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, also May 29, by VALERIE VIVIENNE, Speciality Dancer (Dutch, Toe, Acrobatic). Grand Theatre, Flint, N. Wales.

WANTED, Mon. next, GEO. BURY, Comedian, the Undertaker of Sorrow. This, Palace, Tooting.
House, 137, Balham-hill, S.W.

WANTED, Monday and June 5, STEELE and ROSS,
in their great Comedy Sketch,
"OH! WHAT A WIFE."
15 minutes. More laughs than a Chaplin picture. Wire, 29, Fennel-st., Loughborough.

MACTAVISH and HILL.
The Scotsman and his Coloured Acquaintance.
WANTED, May 22 and 29. This, Hippo., Aldershot.

WANTED, May 22 and 29, ATLAS. VULCANA GIRLS. Own Big Star Top or Full Variety Co. Empire, Shirebrook.

WANTED May 22, on, "VIONA BANJO TRIO." This, Hippo., Accrington. Next, Alh., Morecambe.

WANTED, few immediate dates. CHARD'S CANINE WONDERS and "Major Mite," educated pony. Wire, 6, Church-street, Leamington Spa.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, ROLLO, on the High Rope, the most thrilling aerial act in the business. A real gala attraction. No nets required. For terms, 98, Peel-street, Rochdale, Lancs.

WANTED Known, HANDY ANDY, Talking and Knockabout Clown, with numerous comic interludes; now concluding 12 months' tour through France and Belgium; liberty July 3, on. Address, c/o 3, Leopold-rd., Liverpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Side Show Novelties for high-class Garden Party; must be refined; open at once. Apply, FRED KARNO, 27, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.1.

WANTED, Engts., balloon ascents, parachute descents, balloon races, model airship flights. SPENCER BROTHERS, 22, Bouverie-road, London, N.16.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leaders with Libraries, Instrumentalists (strings only). LINER ORCHESTRA. Call and interview, ALFRED RIESS, National Entertainment Association, 18 Charing Cross-road, W.C.2.

WANTED, a Violinist (Rep.); must be able to play first when required. Apply Wednesday, between 3-9, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Golden Domes, Streatham, S.W.16.

WANTED, Violinist, Repet., lady or gent. Audition, Wednesday, from 3 p.m. M. D., Super Cinema, Kingston.

WANTED, to commence June, experienced Violiniste-Leader (lady), for Hotel Trio, S. Coast; good tone and instrument essential; 3½ hours daily; six days; salary £3 10s. Pars. and refs. to Box 359, "The Era."

WANTED, a Lead Lady Violinist; must be young, good appearance, and be able to read at sight, to join ladies' jazz band. Write, Box 346, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Leader Violinist, experienced, for cinema; lady or gent. Write or call evenings. M. D., Fulham Grand Theatre, Putney Bridge, S.W.6.

WANTED, first-class Solo Leader and 'Cellist, to open Monday next, for cinema; 6 nights, 3 mats.; must be fully experienced. Age, ref., and terms, to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 10, Wellington-avenue, Whalley Range, Manchester.

WANTED, brilliant Violin-Leaders; high-class cinemas; evgs. only; £5; must be excellent performers. State age, &c., to M. D., 110, Brailsford-road, Fallowfield, Manchester.

WANTED, Leader, Bass (relief), for Cinema. Call mornings, 22, Vartry-road, Amhurst Park, Stamford Hill, N.

WANTED, experienced lady Violiniste, 'Celliste and Pianiste; must be used to Hotel work. Particulars, enclosing photo if convenient, to F. H. JEPSON, The Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, experienced lady Violiniste, 8 weeks, for Trio; start 22nd, or soon as possible; Eastbourne; Sundays and evenings free. Apply, QUEENIE HOWARD, 8, Bedfordwell-rd., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Violin, 'Cello, and Double Bass, for small Manchester cinema; evenings; brilliant player. Lowest terms, Box 335, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinists to write for free trial of "Violin Tuneometer." WILKINS, 30, Cardiff-road, Luton.

WANTED, Violinist. Only first-class players need apply; live in. State terms per week of 23 hours. Apply, MUSICUS, Cleveley's Hydro., Blackpool.

WANTED, Violin and 'Cello, for suburban cinema. State experience, lowest terms for evenings only, DARE, 26, Paternoster-row, E.C.

WANTED, first-class Violinist (amateur) for String Quartette; S.W. strict. Box 375, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, experienced First Cornet, for suburban music hall; permanency to suitable man; salary £4. Apply by letter, with refs., to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 70, Kennington Oval, London, S.E.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Euphonium, Horn; about 16 weeks; 4 hours per day. Lowest possible terms. A. ROBERTS, 4, Wellington-place, Penzance.

WANTED, Cornettist for Aberystwyth Town Band (brass), from June 3, for about 16 weeks; state qualifications and terms. SECT, Caron Villa, Loveden-road, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Cornet Player, for 3 months, evenings only; Edmonton district; open Monday. Lowest terms to ABBOTT, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, good lady 'Celliste (soloist). Audition, Wednesday; from 3 p.m. M. D., Super Cinema, Kingston.

WANTED, lady 'Celliste, Hotel Engt., Isle of Man, June 3, four months' season. Return fares paid. Lowest terms, AUSTIN, 68, Frobisher-road, Hornsey, N.8.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist (male); well up in high-class cinema work; Liverpool district; evenings only. Particulars and terms to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 100, King-street, Egremont, Liverpool.

WANTED, 'Cellists to write for trial of "'Cello Tuneometer." Free gift of E. string to try "Poet and Peasant" in neck position. Trial of 5th String Adapter will follow. WILKINS, 30, Cardiff-road, Luton.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced 'Cello and Double Bass; summer season; commencing June 3; 24 hours weekly. Apply, with latest refs., terms, MUS. DIR., Brine Baths Orch., Droitwich.

WANTED, brilliant 'Cellists; cinemas and trade shows; 2 mats., 6 evgs., £5; also evgs. only, £4 5s. State age, &c., to M. D., 110, Brailsford-road, Fallowfield, Manchester.

WANTED, 'Cellist, to complete Trio for small Hotel. Coms. to PROPRIETRESS, Parade Pte. Hotel, Cowes, I.W.

WANTED, Musicians, at first-class Variety Halls.
Birmingham Empire, 'Cellist.
Applicants must be experienced and thoroughly competent. Write, with full particulars, copies of references, &c. to the MUSICAL DIRECTOR at the above-mentioned hall.

WANTED, Mustel Organist, Orch. and Solo, for high-class cinema; afts. and evngs. Terms and refs. to MUS. DIR., Clifton Cinema, Cliftonville.

WANTED, Male Orchestral Pianist-Organist (pedal), for deputy work, 3½ days weekly; must be first-class or useless. Apply, ARTHUR W. OWEN, Mus. Dir., Angel Picture Theatre, Islington, 10.30 a.m. Thursday, or write.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist for Picture Theatre, London, N. State age, experience, lowest; 6 days weekly. Box 372, "The Era."

WANTED, to commence on May 22, a first-class Pianist, able to extemporise and play to pictures; lady preferred. State terms (lowest), permanent, SAYCE, Riviera Cinema, Teignmouth.

WANTED, first-class Orchestral Pianist, for cinema, May 22. Also Orch. Organist Required. Terms, refs., MANAGER, Coliseum, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Pianist, for small revue; fit-up; transpose, arrange; open at once; no fines. Wire lowest terms, SABLE, Memorial Hall, Much Wenlock, Salop.

WANTED, Relief Pianist, for Kent; open Monday. Lowest terms, ABBOTT, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, brilliant Orch. Pianists; cinemas; 3 mats., 6 evgs., £4 15s.; and 2 mats., 6 evgs., £4 12s. 6d. Also Organist (reed), evgs. only, £4. State age, &c., M. D., 110, Brailsford-road, Fallowfield, Manchester.

WANTED, Pianist-Partner, young (lady or gent.). Full partics., F. F., 33, Camberwell New-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Lady or Gent. Orch. Harmonium, to be able to play piano if neces. Apply, MUS. DIR., Brick Lane Palace, Brick-lane, E., between 3-5 or 7-10.30.

WANTED, good Harpiste, lady or gent., for orchestra first-class variety theatre; permanency. Terms, references, &c., to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Empire Theatre, Chatham.

WANTED, first-class Drummer (with humour and originality), Tympanist, with full effects; must be thoroughly experienced and accustomed to high-class work. Continuous performance afternoons and evenings. Clarinettist also required (flat pitch). State lowest terms and references in first instance to CHAS. H. ALLAN, Queens Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, at once, exp. Cinema Drummer and Tympanist. Apply, before 1 o'clock Wednesday, or Thursday, 131, Bedford Hill, Balham.

WANTED, a Trio for London Restaurant, evenings only. State terms, Box 374, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, a reliable Trio, which should include 1 violin, 1 Second Violin, and Pianist, for Cinema work; also a Relief Pianist, one who can play harmonium organ if necessary. Apply, TOTTENHAM PAVILION, Wed., May 17, at 11 o'clock in morning.

WANTED, Ladies' Trio (Violin, 'Cello, Piano), for summer season. Photo. and references with application. MANAGER, Runnacleave Hotel, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Trio, Scotland, June, 6 weeks; light hours; Scotch musicians please apply. LEEMAN, 9, Coleherne-terrace, Earl's Court, London.

WANTED, Trio, for pictures; suburb; evenings only; audition Thursday, 11. Lowest terms to VENN'S, 14, High-street, Sutton, Surrey. 'Phone: 1649.

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WANTED, a Quintette, to play daily, Sundays excepted; modern cinema, situated North London, with complete and up-to-date library. Apply, stating particulars and terms, B.J.H.M., N.A.S., St. Ann's Chambers, Ludgate-hill, E.C.4.

WANTED, Clarinet, 'Cello, Tymps., for tour, grand opera; flat pitch. H. B. PHILLIPS OPERA CO., T.R., Huddersfield.

WANTED, Pianist, Violins, Cornet, Clarinet, Drums. Apply, Wednesday, 12 o'clock, with instrument. 77, New Oxford-street.

WANTED, Violins, 'Cello, Bass, Tympani and Drums, and Organist, ladies, to open at once; cinema work. Apply, stating experience and salary for twice daily, to Box 348, "The Era."

WANTED, for 6 weeks, from July 17 to Aug. 28, Small Jazz Band; ladies preferred; open-air performances. Apply, COTTIER CUBBIN, Onchan Head, Douglas, Isle of Man.

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WESTBOURNE PARK STUDIOS AND AGENCY,
WOODFIELD-ROAD, PADDINGTON, W. (Three minutes from Westbourne Park Station).
'Phone: 5902 Hampstead.
Licensed by the London County Council.

Lessee and Manager,
WILFRED E. BOYCOTT.

WANTED Known, MAUD RISELEY, A.R.A.M., Musical Director, Broadway Gardens Cinema, Walham Green, S.W., conducts Orchestral Classes daily for all instruments at Westbourne Park Studios (address above).
Special advantages offered for inexperienced Drummers. Coaching for Classical and Jazz work provided. Drums and effects on premises.
Instruction given in standard works. Tavan arrangements, &c.
Music lent for home study.
ACTUAL EXPERIENCE IN CINEMA ORCHESTRA PROVIDED.
Violin and Piano Lessons given.
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This Agency and all classes are under the personal direction of Wilfred E. Boycott, six years sole manager for Fritz Kreisler, 3 years ditto for Harold Bauer, Touring Manager for Vert's Agency, Corkstreet, touring with Madame Albani (farewell tour), Pablo Casals, Jacques Thibaud, &c., &c.
Summer and Seaside Orchestras now being arranged. All Artists apply. Managers can hear and engage any number or single Artists at above Studios.
Members of the Orchestral Classes already booked under contract for the summer.
Interview and audition any morning except Saturdays.
Complete Orchestra, Trios, and Deputies provided at shortest notice.
Artists wishing for good Deputies for summer season apply immediately.
All instruments provided.

All Applications for Classes, Orchestras Trios, Registration (for engagements) to W. E. BOYCOTT.

THE PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, Drums, Cornet, Flute, Clarinet, Violin. Photos, with refs., to FRED. C. HIME.

WANTED, 2 Violas, 2 Basses, 2 Oboes and Tymps., to complete Symphony Orchestra, view to engagements (semi-professionals). Letters to E. CAPLAN, 13, High-street, Acton, W.

WANTED, first-class Jazz Band, complete; South Coast; open Whitsun. Also Saxophonist, for Llandudno. State terms, refs., particulars, J. W. RUSSELL, Manager, Codman's Enterprises, New Pavilion, Aberdovey.

ROYAL BURGH OF AYR.
WANTED, Band for Season, 1922.
The Corporation of Ayr invite tenders for a Military Band of 21 Players, including Conductor, to give performances six days a week over a period of thirteen weeks during season, 1922, on the Band Stand, Low Green, Ayr.
Tenders, which must be marked "Tenders for Band," and specify the instruments to be used, should be lodged with me not later than 20th May.
P. A. THOMSON, Town Clerk.
Town Clerk's Office,
Ayr. 9th May, 1922.

WANTED, Musicians, Orchestral and Vocal; semi-professional or experienced amateurs; all instruments; to form a new choral and orchestral society in North-West London. Write, PRITCHARD, 86, Hungerford-road, N.

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Music seelcted to supit all films. Specimen parcel, orchestra, 3s.; piano solo, 2s. 6d., post free.
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Best on the market. Violin E, 7d.; A, 8d.; D, 9d.; silver G, 1s. 6d.; Violoncello A, 1s. 2d.; D, 1s. 6d.; G., 2s.; C., 2s. 6d.
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A boon to Violinists. Post free, 2s. 2d.
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And postage.
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WANTED, Artists, to act as Agents for the Milgrom Pianos. Liberal commission to those who can introduce cash buyers. As we are the makers we are able to sell a sound, modern Piano for 30 guineas. Particulars from A. E. MILGROM CONCERT DIRECTION, 324, Regent-street, W. 'Phone, Langham 2714.

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To the first 50 purchasers of "Supplication" (violin solo and trio), post free 1s. 1d., we are giving one trio free. Write now, HOWARD & CO., 19, Percy-street, W.1.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

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WANTED KNOWN, TIP-TOP MUS. DIR.-PIANIST, AT LIB.; ARTIST, WITH A PERSONALITY; WEST-END EX.; FINE LIBRARY AND KNOW MY BUSINESS. ENQUIRIES, BOX 333, "THE ERA."

WANTED, Engt. as Mus. Dir., Bandmaster, or Conductor; exp.: L.R.A.M.; orch., mit., or brass. ESSESS, 186, Revelstoke-road, Southfields, S.W.18.

WANTED, engagement by PIANIST-MUSICAL DIRECTOR, competent; first-class experience in Tavan, standard works, &c.; 5 years' cinema experience. Refs. or would deputise. MR. HANWELL, 17, St. Ervan's-road, Westbourne Park, W. 10.

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WANTED, by Musical Director (piano or baton), Engagement; Composer, Arranger; late Syndicate Halls; highest references; permanent or tour. C. E. HOWELLS, 4, Bathurst-st., Hyde Park, W.

WANTED Known, Mus. Dir., Pianist (double violin or viola), disengaged; exp. any bus.; seaside or spa preferred; cinema, theatre, gardens, pier, &c. M. D., 57, Sloane-street, Brooks's Bar, Manchester.

WANTED Known, HARRY RICHARDSON, Mus. Dir., dis. 28, Union-street, Market Rasen.

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WANTED, Engt., thoroughly exp. Violin-Repet.; lady. VIOLINISTE, 28, Danvers-street, Chelsea, S.W.3.

WANTED, by Violinist-Repet. (lady), Cinema Engagement; would depute. Box 341, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., Violin, Repet. or Second; good tone; experienced; reliable; good refs.; disengaged May 22. H. FOREMAN, M.U., Hippodrome, Hamilton, N.B.

WANTED, Engt. by Violinist-Rep.; exp. and reliable; any bus.; terms mod. Write, S. WILKINS, 185, Ribblesdale-road, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED, engagement by exp. Rep. Violinist; evenings only; North London preferred. VIOLINIST, 87, Allison-road, N.8.

WANTED Known, Violinist-Repetiteur wants work; fully experienced. 'Phone, Putney 282. 45, West Hill-road, Southfields, S.W.18.

WANTED, engagement by Violin Rep., young; present engagement two years; leaving owing to cuts. 3, Elm-road, Forest Gate.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or Rep., by first-class Violiniste-Soloist (young lady); excellent references; own library if required. Apply, "VIOLINISTE," 158, Clerkenwell-road, E.C.

WANTED Known, Engt. as Violiniste-Leader and Pianist (two) or Trio; experienced Cinema and Café; large up-to-date library over 2,000; highest references; at liberty May 22; distance no object. Reasonable terms to HAMILTON, 49, Greys-rd., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement by exp. Hotel. EDITH L. MAINWOOD, G.S.M., 27a, Ravenstone-street, Balham, S.W.12.

WANTED, Engt. by Violiniste-Leader, thor. exp., Seaside Hotel, S. Coast preferred; commence Whitsun. Box 246, "The Era."

WANTED, BY EXPERIENCED VIOLINISTE-LEADER, ENGT., CINEMA, HOTEL, OR CAFE. GOOD TONE. SMART APPEARANCE. OWN LIBRARY.
APPLY, ANNA JANSSEN, C/O 24, LYSWAYS-STREET, WALSALL.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engt. by Violinist as Leader or first-class Rep., or deputise as above. Mod. terms. Start any time. LEADER, 94, Stanhope-street, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, Engt. by noted Yorks and Midlands Violin Soloist and Leader, Artist and Vocalist; café, cinema, hotel, &c.; good reader; ex. refs. Audition any time. Terms reasonable. Offers. BOWATER, 105, Murchison-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engt. as Leader or Rept.; 20 years' exp. opera, varieties, pictures; library; liberty Monday. C. CROFT, 1, Jordan-avenue, Kimberley-st., Hull.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader, first or second violin; any bus.; last position 10 years. CHENEY, 131, Coventry-road, Bedford.

WANTED, seaside Engt. by experienced Violiniste-Leader, with extensive library; could provide Trio. Box 353, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Violin, Leader or Rep.; any business; extensive library; can supply pianist who can double 'cello; terms moderate; highest references. H. P., 25, Queen's-street, Chester.

WANTED Known, Leader and 'Cellist, joint offer; Pianist also; ladies; London or suburbs. 102, Down's Park-rd., Clapton.

WANTED Known, first-class Leader (gent.) is open for immediate Engagement, any business; distance no object. Apply, VIOLINIST, 60, Howland-street, Tottenham Court-rd., W.1.

WANTED Known, a First-class Violinist (Leader) is disengaged, with a splendid library. Can open immediately. Pictures, hotels, or seaside. Thoroughly experienced in all lines. London or provinces. Apply, 44, Chapel-street, Islington, N.E. 'Phone, North 2875.

WANTED, by Leader-Conductor; brilliant concert soloist; West End experience; large up-to-date library; highest refs.; Cinema, Café, or Concert Engagement; London or Seaside; with or without orchestra. NORMAN NELSON, 37, Howley-place, London, W.2.

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WANTED, Re-engt. by young lady Violiniste 2 years repet. in Cinema; moderate terms for further experience; would take dance work; North district preferred. VIOLINIST, c/o 30, Highbury New Park, N.5.

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WANTED, by a brilliant Violiniste and Pianiste; young; good appearance; engagement; town or country; good readers; able to sing; soloists, and knowledge of various orchestral works. All coms., Box 371, "The Era."

WANTED, BY LADY VIOLINISTE, THOROUGHLY EXPERIENCED IN THEATRE, CINEMA, DANCE, AND ORCHESTRAL WORK. RE-ENGAGEMENT OR DEPUTISING. EVENING OR MATINEE. LONDON DISTRICT PREFERRED. EX. REFS. DAVIES, PUBLICITY, 13, VICTORIA-STREET, S.W.

WANTED, by Violinist (lady), exp., would like engagement in Theatre. LILIAN BELL, Newtown, Mont.

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WANTED, by Lady Violinist, Engagement in Town; Leader or Repet., with own library; well up in fitting pictures. Apply, VIOLINISTE, 20, Gosfield-street, Gt. Portland-st., W.1.

WANTED, Engt. by exp. Violiniste, 3 years on Continent, exp. Tavan; Seaside or Country; any distance or direction. The BUNGALOW, Arkley, near High Barnet.

WANTED, Engt. as experienced Violinist; all kinds of high-class work; hotel or cinema, and can supply Trio; extensive library. All coms. to CHEVALIER, 25, Frith-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.1.

WANTED, by VIOLINIST (can double VIOLA), Engagement, any business. VIOLINIST, c/o THE LONDON MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY, 29, Lonsdale-rd., Barnes, S.W. Telephone: Hammersmith 1566.

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Soloist.
Good tone and executant.
Disengaged next week.
Refs.

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WANTED Known, thoroughly experienced Violinist (any bus.); can deputise from Whitsun to end of Sept. or longer; member M.U.; London or suburbs only; Western district preferred. Address, VIOLINIST, 35, Maxilla-gardens, North Kensington, W.10.

WANTED, Engt. by Fiddle Player (male, young); cinema, London; Orchestral experience; small salary. Write, D., 24, St. Olafs-road, Fulham S.W.6.

WANTED, by Violinist (gent.), Engagement in cinema; good refs.; experienced; at liberty Whitsuntide. 5, Rosebery-terrace, Jacob's Wells-road, Bristol.

WANTED Known, Violinist, gent., exp., young; good tone, appearance; open for dep., cinema, evenings; also summer engts.; London and suburbs. Write, 198, South Ealing-rd., Ealing, W.5.

WANTED Known, good Violinist, combine viola; at liberty; any bus. H. CHATFIELD, 76, Norris-road, Hillsboro', Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement for Season, by brilliant Violin Soloist of fame, and Musical Director; extensive and up-to-date repertoire.

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WANTED, Engt. by Cornettist, as First or Second; military or orch.; exp.; good soloist and transposer; distance no object. Box 339, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet; orchestra, military, or brass band; ex. refs.; non-union. Box 342, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., Solo Cornet, first-class experiences, all lines, good soloist and transposer. CORNET, 240, Munster-road, Fulham.

WANTED, engagement by experienced Solo Cornet; good soloist and transposer; highest refs. Address, CORNET, 50, Bark-street, Bolton, Lancs.

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WANTED, Engagement by experienced Clarinet; any business; high or low pitch. P. SHEEHAN, 58, Shenley-road, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarinettist; high or low pitch. C. WOODWARD, 24, London-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Engt., exp. Clarinet; season or perm.; any bus. MARSHALL, 58, Slatey-road, Oxton, Birkenhead.

WANTED, engagement, Clarinet; thor. experienced; any business. CLARINET, 70, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.16.

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WANTED, Engagements, String Bass, anything orchestral. CARTER, 37, Mildmay-rd., Romford.

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WANTED, by D. Bass, Re-engt., through closing; exp. in all lines. BASSO, Empire Theatre, Peterborough.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Bass; London or seaside; thoroughly experienced. BASSO, 119, Tufnell Park-road, N.

WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY A SMART YOUNG BASS (OWING TO REDUCTION OF ORCHESTRA); EXPERIENCED IN ANY BUSINESS; FIRST-CLASS REFERENCES; LONDON OR SUBURBS ONLY. APPLY, BASSO, 61 CHAUCER-HOUSE, BOROUGH, S.E.1.

WANTED, Engt. by Double Bass; West-End experience; standard works and varieties. D. B., 24, Marlborough-hill, N.W.8.

WANTED, Season Engagement by exp. D Bass (4 strings); accustomed to high-class programmes; excellent refs., reasonable terms. Replies to Box 362, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by lady Trombone Player, combine piano; any business. N., 14, Rowfant-road, Balham, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Trombonist, Re-engagement, with Military Band, for summer season. TROMBONIST, 90, Upper Clapton-road, London, E.5.

Jazz. Jazz. Jazz.
WANTED Known, Trombone (also soloist) at liberty through disappointment with dud show; 18 years' exp.; young, refined. Offers, 36, Forest-road, Dalston, E.8.

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WANTED, engagement by experienced Trombone, with first-class Jazz Combination. 84, Leathwaite-road, S.W.11.

WANTED Known, Trombone (double Second Violin); thoroughly experienced concert, military, variety, &c., requires season engagement; can open June 5. Good offers. C. BASHFORD, Empire, West Hartlepool.

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WANTED Known, Saxophonist, double-handed, with trap drum; late Strand Corner House. D. DOWNEY, 8, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Saxophonist, experienced, summer engagement; dance or mil. G. K., 16, Arthur-road, Stoke Newington, N.16.

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WANTED Known MISS DE LESSY, 'Celliste, 14, Stanley-gardens, N.W.3, wants 2 or 3 days deputy work per week; Café or Cinema.

WANTED, engagement, 'Celliste (lady); experienced; would deputise or permanent. 212, Brixton-road, S.W.9.

WANTED, by 'Celliste, Engagement; experienced; London or suburbs. 8, Burnthwaite-road, Fulham, S.W.6.

WANTED, by experienced lady 'Celliste, summer Engt.; any business; disengaged after May 20. 52, Bligh-street, Liverpool.

WANTED Known, Lady 'Celliste disengaged. Exp. any business. Would Deputise. "'CELLISTE," 6, Fairlawn-Grove, Chiswick, W.4.

WANTED, Engt. by 'Cellist, gent., open at once; Cinema; sight reader. Address, 47, Nicholls-street, Coventry.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engt. by exp. 'Cellist, any business; exp. all standard music. Tavan, &c. 'CELLIST, 66, Elgin-avenue, Maida Vale, W.9.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, thoroughly experienced, Engagement; hotel preferred. Box 347, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., 'Cello; any business; or Deputising. 'CELLIST, 186, Revelstoke-road, Southfields, S.W.18.

WANTED Known, exp. 'Cellist, open for Gdn. Pts., Dances, or Deputising. A. E. SHAW, 60, Caithness-road, Mitcham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as 'Cellist, experienced in Cinema, Variety and Drama; good testimonials. 'CELLIST, 2, Everleigh-place, York-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Engt. by 'Cellist; any business; exp.; open May 29.
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WANTED, Engagement by experienced Cinema 'Cellist, at liberty Monday next. WANSTALL 33, Terrace, Barnes.

WANTED Known, 'Cellist requires Afternoons till 6 p.m. GLIBBERY, 265, Essex-rd., Islington.

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WANTED, summer Engt. by lady Flautiste; exper. all lines; highest refs.; high or low pitch. FLAUTISTE, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

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WANTED, Engt., first-class Flautist; vacant May 29; any bus.; both pitches; London or suburbs. Box 337, "The Era."

WANTED Known, first-class Flautist, at liberty for summer engagement; high or low pitch. H. ALLEN, 116, Wolverton-road, Leicester.

WANTED Known, Geo. F. Rutherford, Flautist (late Brighton Municipal Orchestra), also Florence Rutherford, 'Celliste, disengaged May 29. RUTHERFORD, Principal Flautist, Carl Rosa Opera Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

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WANTED, by first-class Mustel Organist, immediate Engagement; terms reasonable. Write, Box 344, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by Organist (for good deputy). Write, SYDNEY SMITH, 31, Quentin-road, Lewisham, S.E.13.

WANTED, by Orchestral-Organist and Piano-Accordionist; 15 years' experience. Add., GEO. SMART, 38a, Burnaby-st., Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, engagement by brilliant Pianiste-Organiste, L.R.A.M., with slight cinema experience, and wishing to improve same. Very moderate terms. Box 356, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., by Pianiste-Organiste; orch. or solo; pipe or otherwise; would deputise. PIANISTE, 210, Clapham-road, S.W.9.

WANTED, Engt., Orch. Pianiste-Organiste (pipe or reed); orch. library. 28, Vant-road, Tooting, S.W.17.

WANTED Known, lady Orch. and Solo Pianiste; thoroughly exp. high-class music. Terms moderate. M. FABRY, 166, Muswell Hill-road, N.10.

WANTED, by Relief Pianiste, re-engagement for cinema; London or country; seven years' London experience. E. CLARIDGE, 162, Third-avenue, Queen's Park, Paddington, W.

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WANTED, re-engagement by experienced Orchestral Pianiste (lady), Relief, Trio, or otherwise. PIANISTE, 18, East-hill, Wandsworth, S.W.

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WANTED, by Pianiste and Violinist, joint or separate; liberty any date; own library; used to Tavans. Apply, MUSICIANS, Rose Cottage, Hollands-road, Teignmouth.

WANTED, Engt. by known Orch.-Pianiste, thoroughly experienced. DOROTHY MELLISH, 25, St. Alban's-rd., Harlesden, N.W.10.

WANTED, by exp. Orchestral-Pianiste, Re-engagement for Pictures; Town or South Coast preferred. Apply, PIANISTE, 33, Huntsmoore-rd., East Hill, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, Engt. by exp. Orchestral-Pianiste,
Tavans, standard Overtures.
Previous engts., 2 and 3 years.

"WILLS,"
Dringhouses, York.

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WANTED, Engt. by first-class exp. lady Pianiste; café or hotel; South Coast if poss. PIANISTE, 6, The Exchange, Upper Tulse-hill, S.W.2.

WANTED, Engt., Deputising, or Perm.; good, expd. cinema Pianiste; relief, solo, accompaniste. E. WYATT, 348, Essex-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, Engt. by exp. Relief Pianiste; combine organ; would deputise. PIANISTE, 107, Fentiman-road, Clapham.

WANTED Known, lady Pianiste, very experienced, wants Sunday evening engagement; cinema, solo, or orchestral. Box 358, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Orchestral or Relief Pianiste; cinema or café; permanency or deputising. ANDREWS, 47, Ormiston-road, Shepherd's Bush.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Orchestral, Cinema, Jazz, Pianist; liberty Monday. SMITH, 21, First-avenue, Mortlake, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engt. by London Dance Pianist, young; smart app.; at liberty now. S. FIGG, 12, Victoria-villas, Kilburn, N.W.6.

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WANTED, Engt. by Pianist-Reed Organist, through closing of Midland Cinema, Manchester; Orch. or Solo; exp. any bus.; combine 2nd Violin or Viola. 57, Sloane-st., Brooks's Bar, Manchester.

WANTED, by experienced Orchestral Pianist-Organist, Deputy Cinema Work, for single days; permanent or temporary Address, "BRITON," Box 488, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Orchestral-Pianist, L.R.A.M.; excellent sight reader; all arran.; London or Provinces. 9, Kempson-rd., Walham Green.

WANTED Known, Tip-top Orch. Pianist; brilliant soloist and thorough knowledge of highest class music. Satisfaction guaranteed. West-End exp. First-class man awaits replies to Box 334, "The Era."

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WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Orchestral Pianist (gent.); would come on trial if not too far. Box 345, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Orchestral Pianist; experienced; moderate terms; reliable. GEORGE, 157, Chatham-avenue, East-road, N.1.

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WANTED, by Pianist, at lib.; 18 years' exp. pictures and variety, &c.; steady and reliable. E. JONES, 32, Rathbone-street, Tunstall, Staffs.

WANTED, Engt., any line; just concluded "Mary" tour; late Finsbury Park Empire; Pianist, Arranger, and Composer. Highest qualifications. FRED SAKER, 82, George-street, Cheetham Hill, Manchester.

WANTED, Evenings, Week-ends, by smart Pianist; exc. reader, extemp., accomp.; pictures or alfresco. Normanhurst, Heston-road, Hounslow.

WANTED Known, brilliant Orch. Pianist. Also first-class 'Cellist (joint or single); at liberty for season or perm.; 18 years' experience all lines. Wire, PIANIST, 19, Tonning-street, Lowestoft.

WANTED Known, VICTOR WATKINSON, Cinema Relief Pianist, at liberty May 22; deputise or permanent engagement.
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'Phone, North 3529.

WANTED Known, Orchestral Pianist (gent.); experienced; open for engagement, London or suburbs; small cinema preferred. Write, JACKSON, c/o 4, Ferme Park-road, N.4.

WANTED, Re-engagement by thoroughly capable Orchestral-Pianist small country town preferred.
ORCHESTRAL-PIANIST,
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WANTED, by lady Jazz Banjoist, engagement; London or seaside; young, good appearance, and first-class player. Address, Box 221, "The Era."

WANTED Known, first-class Banjoist, disengaged beginning of May. First-class summer engagement wanted. Reply, H. A. B., 1, Finchley-road, N.W.8.

WANTED Known, Banjoist at liberty, thoroughly experienced in dance work. BRYCE, 145, High Holborn. 'Phone, Museum 5187.

WANTED, Engt. by first-class Banjoist; fully experienced in jazz work.

Box 336, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Banjoist, at liberty for Revue, Variety, or Dance. First-class offers only entertained. Reply, BANJOIST, 43, Weymouth-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED Known, Banjoist, first-class; sight and memorise; open. BANJO, 159, Lupus-st., S.W.1.

WANTED Known, at liberty, Tymp. and D. Drummer; first-class exp. and refs.; England and Continent; all lines; second instr. D. Bass; could double instr. if small salon orchestra. Also supply high-class Continental music library if arrangements suitable. London preferred. ST. VALERIE, 171, Fentiman-road, Vauxhall.

WANTED Known, Tymp., D.D., first-class exp all lines; at lib.; good engagement; London preferred; would deputise for anyone having seaside season. Could commence immediately. Box 363, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Tymp. and D. Drummer (Lady) at lib.; first-class exp. all lines. Box 364, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Trap Drummer, vacant for any kind of dance work; can assist with banjo, Swanee whistle; good outfit; can do any kind dancing; will do anything; terms mod.; will go anywhere. Box 770, "The Era."

WANTED KNOWN, YOUNG AND REFINED (ENGLISH) TRAP DRUMMER OPEN FOR SEASIDE ENGAGEMENT; DIRECT FROM WEST END DANCE CLUB; TERMS EXTREMELY MODERATE FOR COMFORTABLE JOB; COULD SUPPLY BAND. 47, NARCISSUS ROAD, N.W.6.

WANTED, by First Class, All-round Drummer and Tympanist, experienced any business. London only. 104, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's Bush, W.12.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, engagement by Drums, Tymps., Bells, Glock: London or suburbs; cinema or theatre. NEVILL, 58, Romford-road, Forest Gate, E.7.

WANTED Known, EXPERT JAZZ DRUMMER, smart appearance, refined syncopation, seeks one to three nights per week in town. "TRAPS," 12, Portsea-place, W.2.

WANTED, by first-class Double Drummer and effects: own tymps.; thor. exp. T. ALLETSON, 59 Union-street, Cowlenbeath.

WANTED, engagement, Tympani, Drums, effects: experienced; cinema, military, orchestral; liberty 22nd. 15, Lavender-terrace, S.W.11.

WANTED, by Tympanist and Drums, &c., Re-engagement; permanency or season. R. EVANS, 65, Seaford-street, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED Known, disengaged, Double Drums, Glock., &c.; 12 years' experience; reliable; any bus. Write, WOLSTENHOLME, 49, Ingham-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engt. by first-class Tympanist and Drummer (seaside or cinema); at liberty; ex. refs. 2, Belvedere Villas, Bath.

WANTED Known, first-class Drummer disengaged, with own tympanies; moderate salary. ABBOTT, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, engagement, Drums and effects, Xylophone soloist; at liberty May 29. DRUMMER, 352, Wandsworth-road, S.W.8.

WANTED, first class Engagement, Tymps., Drums, all effects, any bus., open immediately. Apply, MACDONALD, 7, Belgrave-st., King's Cross, W.C.

WANTED, long Summer Engagement, Seaside, first-class Tymps., Drums, Bells, all effects. Apply, MACDONALD, 7, Belgrave-st., King's Cross, W.C.

WANTED, Engt. by Jazz Drummer, young; smart app.; at liberty now; hotel or dance work. S. FIGG, 12, Victoria villas, Kilburn, N.W.6.

WANTED, Engagement by Tymganist and Double Drummer; own tymps., drums, glock, all effects; at liberty May 29; exp. any business; excellent refs. Box 351.

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Number of pensioners, 80.
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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

BIRTH.

KIDD.—To Isidora Kidd (professionally known as Isidora Algar), wife of Ronald H. Kidd, of 4, The Mall, Hampstead, a daughter. Mother and child doing well.

DEATH.

PINDER. — John William Pinder (Panama), on May 10, at Clapham. Sadly missed by his sorrowing wife, son, and daughter (Theodore and Rose).—R.I.P. South African papers please copy.

IN MEMORIAM.

LE FRE.—In loving memory of our dear son Syd, who passed away on May 16, 1919.

And sometimes in the twilight gloom apart,
The tall trees whisper, whisper heart to heart,
From my fond lips the eager answers fall,
Thinking I hear you call.

From his sorrowing mother and father.

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"MR. GARRICK."

Play in Three Acts, by Louis N. Parker, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Monday, May 15.

David Garrick	Gerald Lawrence
Dr. Samuel Johnson	Roy Byford
Sir Joshua Reynolds	Albert E. Raynor
Dr. Oliver Goldsmith	Henry Twyford
Mr. James Boswell	Fredk. Moyes
Sir Harry Fenton	Jack Raine
Sir William Dunstable	Ernest Bodkin
Plunkett	Sidney Compton
Fairjohn	H. M. Bradford
Mr. Dixon Plimpit	S. Charlton
James Dixon Plimpit	Godfrey Kenton
Alderman Hoskin	Robt. Rivers
Proudman	Lionel Scott
Pastern	Kenneth Gordon
Mrs. Dixon Plimpit	Irene Rathbone
Mrs. Hoskin	Blanche Ripley
Miss Berlinda Hoskin	Helen Gosse
Miss Euphemia Blight	Eleanor Street
Rose	Ellen Pollock
Molly	Cynthia Moore
Pamela	Madge Compton

An instant success was scored by Mr. Louis N. Parker's "Mr. Garrick," the brilliant new play produced at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Monday night. The author has cleverly treated an old story, and introduced many new scenes. None of the main points in the romance are omitted, but the author has brought into the plot such famous characters as Dr. Johnson, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Dr. Oliver Goldsmith, and Mr. James Boswell, and the audience is introduced to Garrick amid a gathering of these celebrated boon companions at the Turk's Head Tavern.

old story is followed, Garrick promising, though against his own growing infatuation, disillusion both her father and her fiancé, his friend, Sir Harry Fenton. The drunken scene follows, and later the principals are seen in private supper boxes at Ranelagh. Here Pamela, the heroine, who is convinced that Garrick was only acting, overhears in the adjoining box his friends denouncing him for his misbehaviour, and his subsequent confession that he was acting. They were entirely taken in by it, and left alone, Pamela, who has learned that Garrick is as much in love as herself, enters the box in which he sits dreaming of her. This leads to a passionate love scene, which is interrupted by the entrance of Sir Harry Fenton. Half intoxicated, and furious, he insults both, and a duel between him and Garrick follows. Fenton is vanquished, and Garrick and his ladylove left to their own happiness.

The performance was excellent, outstanding features being the remarkably fine acting of Mr. Gerald Lawrence as Garrick, and Mr. Roy Byford as Dr. Samuel Johnson. Mr. Albert E. Raynor as Sir Joshua Reynolds, with his ear trumpet; Mr. Harry Twyford as Dr. Oliver Goldsmith, and Mr. Fred Moyes as James Boswell, all realised the individual characters of these interesting personages, and the atmosphere of those days was delightfully sustained.

Very sweet was Miss Madge Compton as Pamela, and the part of her father, Sir William Dunstable, was strongly portrayed by Mr. Ernest Bodkin. Other characters who appear in the story deserve the warmest praise, especially Mr. Jack Raine as the impetuous young gallant, Sir Harry Fenton, a natural and convincing impersonation; Miss Cynthia Moore as Polly, Miss Ellen Pollock as Rose, Miss Eleanor Street as the giggling Miss Euphemia Blight invited to meet the great Garrick, Mr. and Mrs. Dixon Plimpit and their son James were ably sustained by Mr. S. Charlton, Miss Irene Rathbone, and Mr. Godfrey Kenton. Mr. Robert Rivers was exceedingly good as the vulgar Alderman Hoskin, and Miss Blanche Ripley as his equally vulgar wife. Miss Helen Gosse appearing as their daughter. Plunket, Fairjohn, Proudman, and Pastern were represented by Mr. Sidney Compton, Mr. H. M. Bradford, Mr. L. Scott, and Mr. Kenneth Gordon.

LEADING PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Philip Rodway; A. M., Mr E. Greaves; Mus. D., Mr. H. Rushworth.—The Reandean principal company, in arrangement with Dee Cee Tours, give a strong performance of "A Bill of Divorcement," in which Miss Dorothy Manville as Sydney Fairfield acts with remarkable grip and restrained power. Mr. Gordon McLeod is good as Hilary. Hilary's wife and the aunt are acted in well-contrasted fashion by the Misses Helen Russell and Adah Dick, the former showing sincerity in a part made difficult because of its irresolution. Mr. Vernon Fortescue was a determined lover, Mr. Gerald Cross played the headstrong dismissed fiance of Sydney, and both Mr. Charles R Stone and Mr. Francis Hope were extremely good as the doctor and parson.

ALEXANDRA.—P. & L., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest; Mus. D., Mr. David Cochrane.—Mr. Frank Laurence (by arrangement with Mr Robert Courtneidge) presents the melodramatic play, "Out to Win." Thus, after the recent lighter programmes following the successful pantomime, the "Alec." returns to its staple form of entertainment. Written by Roland Pertwee and Dion Clayton Calthorp "Out to Win" has a good plot and many tense situations. Mr E. Hamilton-Jordan as Anthony Barraclough is convincing, and the acting of Miss Letty Paxton in the rôle of Auriol Craven wins sympathy by her charming acting. A capable company supports them.

FORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. and Mrs. F G. Kimberley; A. M., Mr. John Croudace; Mus D., Mr. Geo. Ridding.—Mr. Harry Leaton presents the musical comedy revue, "Bow-wow," by Lyn Harding, in which the principal rôles are taken by Miss Ida Re'Vell, who acts with vivacity and contributes a great deal to the success of the piece, and Mr Geo. West as a comedian whose humour is never lacking in the quality which draws laughter.

GRAND.—P., Moss Empires, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. J. Crane; A. M., Mr. A. Waltham Smith; Mus. D., Mr Gilbert Smith.—Jay Laurier is so droll that one constantly expects him to break out with a sibilant sentence to cap his inimitable s'mince s'pie song Florrie Forde renews acquaintance, and is in great and infectious spirits in her latest songs with a go. The Gresham Singers provided a pleasing and restful scena; one would have liked more. The Jovers, in their comedy act, perform well; an item which should not be missed. Haig Brothers and Ryan, in merry song; Bromley Caster, the entertainer; and Zetta Mor, the versatile vocalist, also appear.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Henry Raymond; A. M., Mr. Batchelor; Mus D., Mr. J. Clegg.—Fred Kitchen exacts a full measure of fun out of Fred Karno's 1922 revue. In no scene was he more irresistible than as a furniture shop manager. Of course, Marie Blanche as a charming bride contributed to the human interest of the scene, and was a central figure for the rest of the show, which was tastefully presented. Alec Regan and Elsie Carlisle are versatile supporters, and among others to the fore are Con Clarke, Gladys Horridge, the two dancers, Walter Norman and Mabel Holmes.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Jullien Wilson. — "Renovating Eve," a thoroughly enjoyable farcical comedy, is here this week. Miss Ethel Irving shows her rare talents as Lady Baxter, and admirable support comes from Lawrence Hanray, excellent as Sir Septimus, Clifford Marle (Cyril), Bertha Northam (Pattie), Richard Carfax (Rev. Mr. Mannington), and Mrs. A. B. Tapping (Mrs. Mannington).

SHAKESPEARE.—L. & M., Mr. W. W Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert King; Mus. D., Mr. Sam Hague.—Donald Calthrop's chief company are here, affording great delight with "My Nieces," a musical comedy founded on Pinero's "The Schoolmistress." The talented Dorothy Craske, as Miss Minnock, dances and sings to everyone's satisfaction; Sam Wilkinson amuses immensely with his honorable Percival Todhunter; Gordon Rennie is quite good as Professor Defossez; Edgar Bruce causes lots of laughter with his Admirable Jessop; and other worthy helpers are Betty Coates (Palema Jessop) and Daphne Wheeler (Mrs. Jessop). The work is nicely staged.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Liverpool Repertory Theatre Co.; M. D., Mr. A. S. Pigott; A. M., Miss Carpenter. — The "Typhoon" ended its successful revival last evening, and to-night (Wednesday) will be presented Bernard Shaw's "How He Lied to Her Husband" and "Getting Married."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. George Manners.—Here we are having Bert Levy, "the artistic entertainer"; Manny and Roberts, the merry messenger boys; Cornalla and Eddie, a smart comedy duo; Syd Howard, comedian; the Metchens (Alice and Roger), wonderful juvenile instrumentalists, who earn lots of applause; Joseph Cheetham, whose tenor songs are received with general pleasure; and the Griffiths Bros., diverting comedians, along with Miss Lutie.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. & L., Mr. P. Cohen; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—Mr. Percy Hutchison and company are presenting "Nightie Night," an exceedingly funny farce, received with shouts of laughter. Mr. Hutchison, in the rôle of Billy Moffat, is the mainstay of the production, and has his audience continually amused with his eccentricities, while he has valuable assistance from Donald Walcot (Porter), Catherine Yates (Trixie), Joan Chaloner, Elsie Stranack, Ernest W. Parr, J. Cranstoun Neville, Dorothy Lawrence, and King Fordham.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M. & L., Mr. E. W. James; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Good business continues to be done at this popular house by reason of the strong programmes provided. In the current one appear the names of Whit Cunliffe, always a favourite in this city; Leipsig, a remarkable manipulator of cards; Hilda Nelson, supported by Patricia Rossborough (pianist) and Peter Muscant ('cellist); May Sherrard, comedienne; Fuji Family of Japanese artists; Carrodus, violinist; and Armstrong and Howarth, comedy couple.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. John Hitchins; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Workman.—The programme here is sustained by Gladys Smith and Johnnie Walker, Scotch entertainers; Joe Mangin and Syd Kerbal, entertainers; Eddie Astor, dancing juggler; Maud Hughes, soprano; How and Howgarth, comedians; Levick Jewels, with an instrumental and vocal scena; and Jack Byrne, comic entertainer.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. Henry Hearn; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—Top of the bill is Tom Edwards, with his noted ventriloquial turn, in which he is assisted by Miss Alice Melville, who sings her own compositions, and at the bottom Cyril Key and Jenny Keyworth, comedy duo; followed by the Zanfrellas, in a posing turn; Doris and Ernie Miller, versatile entertainers; Jessie Star, comedy Scot and whistling soloist; Bains and Dare, comedians; Jack Shields, in burlesque studies; and the Sago Trio of hand balancers and tumblers.

MANCHESTER.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — P., United Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. George Lee; M. C., Mr. C. W. Chambers.—The visit of Mr. Cyril Maude here in his latest rôle, that of Henry Talboyes in "The Dippers," is a theatrical event of great interest to both old and new admirers, and Monday's audience showed its appreciation in full measure. This amusing and clever story of the music-hall star and her elderly admirer is very smartly presented, and though Mr. Cyril Maude is the outstanding personality of the cast, many other accomplished players are to be noted, chiefly Miss Binnie Hale, the lively and enterprising Pauline of the Dipper Dancing Duo, Miss Violet Graham as Stella Tavistock, and Mr. A. G. Poulton as Lord Mellingham. The comedy, which is by Ben Travers, is presented by Mr. Thos. C. Dagnall.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Theatre Buildings, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall.—After a long interval, Sir Frank Benson resumes old associations here with his numerous friends in a series of Shakespearean plays. As usual, he has an earnest and efficient company, and the combined efforts on Monday evening resulted in an excellent rendering of "The Merchant of Venice." It was followed on Tuesday by "Hamlet," one of the famous player's best impersonations.

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. A. C. Duncan; M. C., Mr. Dick Hardwick.—A powerful bill here this week features the refined musical act of the W. H. Squires Trio, the burlesque drolleries of Jack and Evelyn, and a capital turn by Gordon Finlay; while other good things are contributed by Ernie Ream, entertainer; Darty and Partner, in an Italian jumping act; Harry Stiles, "the racy knut"; Page's Wonderful Dolls; and Olivette, in a dancing scena, "Past and Present."

OSBORNE THEATRE. — P., Messrs. Broadhead & Son; A. M., Mr. Robert Sharples; M. C., Mr. Robt. Peel.—P. T. Selbit's sensation, "Sawing Through a Woman," is the prime draw here, supplemented by strong items by Fred Hutchins, dame comedian; Hall and Menzies, in a burlesque novelty; Jenny Fordyce, speciality dancer; Bert Danson, comedian; Hurman, juggler; and Sylvia, instrumentalist.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Broadhead & Son; A. M., Mr. Rex Sugden; M. C., Mr. Patsy O'Callaghan.—Dr. Walford Bodie, assisted by Mlle. La Tesla, is pursuing here the course of his usual stage triumphs, and, in addition to his chief act, presents a further entertainment, "On Board an Ocean Liner," and is responsible for a pleasing vocal turn by Winsome Winnie Russell, the girl with the flute voice. Signor and Madame Borelli, society entertainers, also figure prominently; while other good turns are Cissy Shearer, comedienne and dancer; Kitty Stewart, with a partner and a piano; and Dolly Mountain, comedienne.

KING'S. LONGSIGHT.—P., Messrs. Broadhead & Son; A. M., Mr. George Steel; M. C., Mr. Charles H. Bayley.—Fred Karno's latest revue version of "The Mumming Birds" is maintaining its attractive qualities here this week, with a long cast, including Tommy Russell as the Saucy Boy, Edgar Cooke as the Inebriated Swell; J. E. Sutton, entertainer at the piano; the Orpheus Trio; Syd Keith, American versatile comedian; and Mollie Butler, character impressionist.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Alan Young; M. & Sec., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Asst. M., Mr. Douglas Bush; Mus. D., Mr. T. Wrathmall.—Here for a second successful week, "The Maid of the Mountains," with José Collins in the cast, is playing once nightly to record business.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. Bertram Iles; Asst. M., Mr. Hopkinson; Advt. M., Mr. D. Forbes Winslow; Mus. D., Mr. W. Hague.—An all-round excellent programme here includes Augustus Yorke, Potash, of "Potash and Perlmutter" fame, and company, in a capital American playlet, "Abe, the Hero"; Gillie Potter, an original comedian; Stan Kavanagh, the Australian juggling humorist; the Brothers Walsh, lively songsters; Ethel Maclelland, soprano; Hal Bert, elastic comedian; the Imperial Trio, in vocal harmony, presented by Mina Leon; and the Permaine Brothers, originators of "The Nightingale's Courtship."

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead & Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. M., Mr. H. Hearn; A. M., Mr. H. Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. E. Jones.—"The Belle of Madrid," well presented by a capable company, is a big attraction here this week.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—That pleasing comedy, "Peg o' My Heart," is on a welcome return visit here, and on Monday night had a hearty reception. The play is under the direction of Messrs. Macdonald and Young, who have secured a strong company, which includes Miss Ida Rosalie, who sustains the part of Peg in most charming manner; Miss Ena Douglas, admirable as Mrs. Chichester; Miss Kathleen Christopher, forceful as Ethel; Mr. W. S. Stevenson as Jarvis is good; Mr. Raymond Langley as Alaric, Mr. Cyril Vernon as Christian Brent, Mr. William Yeldham as Hawkes, and Mr. Richard Williams as Jerry, contribute largely to the general success. Mr. Frank Withers is associated with the company as manager.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; A. M., Mr. Maurice Mahony.—Mr. Charles Steuart and George present the comedy, "A Pair of Silk Stockings," in which Mr. Charles Steuart and Miss Jean S. Sturrock admirably sustain the parts of Sam and Molly Thornhill; the strong cast also includes Miss Annie Stalman (Lady Gower), Miss Dorothy Lart (Irene Maitland), Miss Moya Mackintosh (Pamela), Miss Hyacinth Erroll (Angela Bruce), Miss Marie Brian (Morgan), Mr. Kenneth Black (Sir John Gower), Mr. Arthur R. Price (Captain Bagnal), Mr. Kaye Rowe (Hugh McIntyre), and Mr. Edge Rowe (Tramp).

EMPIRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; R. M., Mr. R. Sidebotham; Asst. M., Mr. W. Collins; Mus. D., Mr. John C. Fowler.—The programme is headed by Miss Marie Lloyd, the versatile comedienne, in songs and character studies; other turns are given by Ike and Will Scott, comedians; De Alma, the clever banjoist; Agda and Jim, in acrobatic comedy; Spencer Ward and Gertrude Long, in pleasing vocal scena; Ray Wallace, in songs and impressions; and the Omega Trio, novelty equilibrists.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—R. M. Mr. H. C. Savage; Asst. M., Mr. L. P. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. W. Bingley.—A diversified bill includes the Versatile Three, entertainers, in their popular song hits; Edwin Lawrence, comedian; May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, in her latest successes; Harry Hemsley, mimic of children; Eddy and Irene Foster, entertainers, introducing novelty dances; the Four Kadex, gymnasts; and Frank and Somers, comedy jugglers.

THE ACTORS' CLUB.

A meeting of the directors of the Actors' Club, Limited, was held on Monday. Among those present were Mr. H. Lawrence Harris (in the chair), Misses Jessica Black, Helen Kinnaird, Maud Kirwan, Florence Trevor; Messrs. George D. Ayre, Harold Brownlow, C. Lloyd Nicholson, and the secretary, Emiline Terrie.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

Reports were read from Miss Helen Kinnaird, chairman of the Selection Committee; from Miss Maud Kirwan, chairman of the Catering Committee; from Mr. Harold Brownlow, chairman of the Licencing Committee, and from Mr. Harold Brownlow, chairman of the Premises Committee. Mr. Harold Brownlow was also elected chairman of the Entertainments' Committee, in the place of Mr. Bertram Parnell, who had resigned.

The next concert is to be held in the Club Rooms on Sunday, at 8 p.m.

It has also been arranged that the next whist drive will be held on Thursday, May 24, instead of the Sunday following the concert.

Mr. C. Lloyd Nicholson was elected chairman of the Board in the place of Mr. Jevan Brandon-Thomas, who had resigned.

As the result of the recent production of the "School for Scandal," presented at the Leicester Royal Opera House, by the Walter Martins Players, a cheque for £120 has been handed over to the Leicester Royal Infirmary for the permanent endowment of two further cots in the Children's Hospital. Already three cots have been fully endowed, and over £200 has been raised towards the fourth.

A Question of Results

The value of advertising to all advertisers, large or small, is essentially a question of results. Advertisements in the "Era," however small, will be found to answer this test.

Read the following relating a small "Wanted" advertisement, taken from this week's correspondence.

"Theatre Royal,
"Chorley, May 15.

"Thanks so much for promptness.

"I had 33 applications within 24 hours, and this in spite of scarcity of 'cello players.

Yours truly,
H. Tillman, (Manager)."

ASSOCIATION OF TOURING MANAGERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS.

SIR CHARLES HAWTREY'S
Famous Farcical Comedy.
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
WANTED Theatres.
Oct. 23,
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"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED Theatres.
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By Macdonald Watson.
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July 10, 24, Aug. 7 onwards.
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W. SCOTT BUCCLEUCH.
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Offers invited for good Resident Management Address, Hip., Preston.

KIMBERLEY AND CLYDE'S REPERTORY AT LEICESTER.

Messrs. F. G. Kimberley and Dennis Clyde's Repertory Company is paying a return visit to the Leicester Theatre Royal, and are meeting with success. The members of the company comprise Miss Annette Howard, Miss Margaret English, Miss Ethel Masterson, Messrs. Dennis Clyde, Allan Warde, Richard Ferris, William Cloake, Charles M. Julian. During their short stay here, several well-known plays are being presented.

ERNEST DOTTRIDGE'S ENTERPRISES
"SAMMY IN SOCIETY"
Including ARTHUR WHITE
Vacant August 7, Oct. 2, Nov. 27.
"MUM'S THE WORD."
OPEN TO READ FARCES OR SKETCHES.
Address ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, "Merivale," Clifton Drive, St. Annes-on-Sea.

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SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
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First-Class Attractions for
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Must be something big.
To Play ONCE NIGHTLY.
The Shakespeare is "THE" Popular Theatre of Liverpool. The Box Office says so.
Wire or Write at once to—
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WANTED,
OCT. 23 & JAN. 1
FOR THE
MOST SUCCESSFUL PLAY
— EVER WRITTEN, —
A ROYAL DIVORCE,
By W. G. WILLS.
Now in its 31st Year of Tour.
All previous records broken at Belfast and Dublin.
Wire or Write at once to:—
W. W. KELLY,
Shakespeare Theatre,
LIVERPOOL.
Telegrams: "Buttonhole," Liverpool.

IN THE SUBURBS.

"IF THOSE LIPS COULD ONLY SPEAK."

Play, in Four Acts, by Frank Price. Presented for the first time in London, at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on Wednesday, May 10.

Marston Durrant..Mr. Victor Gammon
Lionel Durrant .. Mr. Rhys Meredith
Tim Mooney ..... Mr. W. H. Irving
Christopher Freyne .. Mr. Dan Mining
Mrs. Durrant .. Miss Alvina Mining
Maggie Mott .. Miss Gertrude Vickers
Stella Garvice .... Miss Vida Landor
Eunice Palgrave .. Miss Dot Stephens

Marston Durrant, of Durrantsterne, falls in love with Eunice Palgrave, his mother's companion, but it does not suit the purpose of Lionel Durrant, the cousin of Marston, who is a scoundrel that has got a village girl, Stella Garvice, into trouble. A wanderer, known as Christopher Freyne, appears on the scene, and Mrs. Durrant, coming face to face with him, finds that it is the man who many years before had married and then deserted her. He claims as the price of his silence concerning their marriage that she should make him an allowance. For her son's sake she agrees, and in her trouble she confides in her companion the story. Eunice offers to mediate for her, and it is while Freyne is threatening her as to disclosures that Lionel brings Marston on the scene. Of course, the worst construction is put upon the encounter, and as Eunice refuses to give an explanation, which necessarily would incriminate the mother, he decides that they must part. Lionel Durrant, while engaged in robbing the safe, requiring money with which to quieten Stella Garvice, inadvertently gives a preconcerted signal which brings Freyne on the scene. In the thrilling scene which follows, Freyne is shot by Lionel Durrant, and Stella Garvice, who is close by, arrives in time to receive Freyne's confession that he and not Mrs. Durrant committed bigamy. Other sensational incidents follow, Eunice being charged with the murder of Freyne, but this is cleared up in due course, and eventually she and Marston are happily reunited.

Mr. Victor Gammon played with much power the part of Marston Durrant, whilst Miss Dot Stephens acted most sympathetically as Eunice Palgrave. Miss Alvina Mining was well cast for the rôle of Mrs. Durrant, and Mr. Rhys Meredith gave a good character sketch of Lionel Durrant. Miss Vida Landor acted intelligently as Stella Garvice. Mr. Dan Mining did well as Christopher Freyne, while Mr. W. H. Irving, as Marston's servant, and Miss Gertrude Vickers as Maggie Mott, maintained their reputation as a capital comedy pair.

"OUR MARY."

Comedy drama, by Frank Price, in three acts, presented for the first time in London at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on Friday, May 12:—

John Hulbert .... Mr James McIntosh
George Garth ..... Mr. Rhys Meredith
Lionel Curtis ..... Mr. Victor Gammon
Teddy Cramp .... Mr. W. H. Irving
Arthur Appleby ..... Mr. Dan Mining
Lilian Hulbert .... Miss Alvina Mining
Rosie Cramp .. Miss Gertrude Vickers
Margaret Grant .. Miss Quiller Valerie
Mary Grant ..... Miss Dot Stephens

Two plots are developed simultaneously—one the continual estrangement between John Hulbert and his wife and daughter, known as Margaret and Mary Grant; and the other the attempt of George Garth, Hulbert's partner, to secure for the firm a contract which will ruin Hulbert, and apparently himself, but in reality place a tidy sum in his (Garth's) pocket. Mary obtains the post of office "boy" to the firm, and in the first act she appears in some delightful comedy situations, and incidentally saves John Hulbert from ruin. Dealing in a most ingenious manner with the papers of Lionel Curtis, Hubbert's private secretary, she puts the contract in the fire and places as substitute a circular in the envelope. When Garth finds he has been worsted he is furious, and wants to discharge Mary but Curtis refuses to allow this to be done. Arthur Appleby has brought about by base means, the parting of Hulbert and his wife. Garth and Lilian Hulbert, who has done herself well in the place of her despised sister-in-law, determine that Hulbert and Appleby shall not meet, but in the end it is Mary Grant who obtains the information which will bring her mother and Hulbert together again, though she is unaware Hulbert is her father. Garth, however, by an unjust accusation, manages to get her dismissed, but virtue triumphs in the end for Garth and Lilian Hulbert are unmasked, Hulbert and his wife are re-united, the private secretary is taken into partnership and obtains the father's consent to marry Mary.

The first scene provides opportunities for comedy acting, of which Miss Dot Stephens, as Mary, took full advantage, and also did well in the later scenes. Mr. Victor Gammon, was an excellent representation of Lionel Curtis. Mr. James McIntosh, as John Hulbert, represented in a faithful manner the business man and also the injured husband. Miss Alvina Mining, as Lilian Hulbert, was a noteworthy impersonation, and Garth himself was strongly presented by Mr. Rhys Meredith. Mr. Dan Mining, as Arthur Appleby, created a favourable impression, and the other members of the cast gave efficient support.

"THE WANDERING JEW," At Hammersmith.

There were very few vacant seats at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday evening, when "The Wandering Jew" was presented by Matheson Lang's company.

The title rôle was finely played by Mr. Murray Carrington, his skilful representation of the tragic figure of the Jew was most impressive, and elicited unstinted applause. Miss Nell Carter, who appeared as Joanne de Beaudricourt in Phase 2, and as Otalia Quintana in the last Phase, was highly effective, especially in the striking Spanish Inquisition scene. Mr. Arnold Rooke was clever and realistic, both as the aged Issachar and as Lazzaro Zapportas, the Jewish usurer, who betrays Matteos Battadios to the Inquisition. Miss Helena Head successfully undertook the dual rôle of Judith and Gianella Bottadio, and Mr. Leonard Shepherd represented both Andrea Michelotti and the Inquisitor General in an able manner. Miss Madge Burbage was good as the handsome Jewess Rachel, and Mr. Chas. Lyon as Bosmund Prince of Tarentum, the Crusader, was also successful.

At the close the curtain was raised repeatedly in response to insistent applause, and Mr. Murray Carrington received quite an ovation.

"OLD BILL, M.P.," At Wimbledon.

"For King and Country; Down with Communism and Bolshevism!" That is the one predominant keytone of "Old Bill, M.P.," that wonderful play by Captain Bruce Bairnsfather, wonderful because of the human touch that rings throughout. Propaganda plays are not always acceptable to the British theatre-going public, but in this the pill is so cleverly and carefully gilded with honest, homely humour that its success throughout the country is absolutely certain. Mr. Seymour Hicks has done wonders in the way of production; the scenes in the coal-mine are most realistic, and the scenery, effects, and tout-ensemble cannot be too highly praised. The acting is as wonderful as the piece. Mr. Edmund Gwenn was an ideal William Busby, "Old Bill," and proved his great abilities as a powerful actor. His pals, Alf and Bert, are presented by the originals, Mr. Sinclair Cotter and Mr. Laurence Barclay, and are, as before, full of life and merriment. Miss Mildred Cottell was admirable as Maggie, Old Bill's wife, as was Miss Edna Bellonini as Aggie. Miss Cyllene Moxon looked handsome as Lady Rosa Presentdale, and Miss Minnie Willett was pathetic as Mrs. Maxwell. Lord Lyveden, as Lord Torrymere, was naturally the kind-meaning owner to the life; Mr. Brian Gilmour was excellent as Captain Presentdale, and Mr. Phillip Simmons was amusing as Lieut. Cheerio, M.C. Mr. J. P. Kennedy gave clever work as Maxwell, and Mr. Vincent Lawson was capital as Clayton, the mine manager. Capt. Bairnsfather himself appeared in one scene, and met with an excellent reception. Mr. Johnny Danvers was highly amusing as the Mayor of Puddlehampton. Mr. Edward Gwenn was vociferously applauded and "called" again and again, and richly did he deserve this reward. Mr. John T. Land is the business manager of the company, and an augmented orchestra rendered the special and appropriate music very creditably.

"BUBBLE AND SQUEAK," At the Palace Theatre, Watford.

Henry Charles, by arrangement with George Carney, is this week presenting the revue, "Bubble and Squeak," a particularly bright and cheery show. That clever fun maker, Charlie Rich, is the principal comedian, representing Simpkins, the manager of the Cupid Matrimonial Agency. Merriment prevails all the time he is on the stage. Mr. Charles Congere, who plays the part of Timothy Underwood, renders valuable assistance in the comic business. Miss Gracie Gallimore is a dainty and vivacious heiress. She is loudly applauded for her vocal numbers, and in duets with Mr. Sidney Siddons meets with much success. Mr. Siddons also renders a nautical song with capital effect. Miss Lola Patey gives an admirable impersonation of an Irish servant. Miss Hilda Elen, who embodies Timothy Underwood's housekeeper, is an exceedingly clever comedienne. Mr. Sam Curtiss, as Winkle the Page, gets a great reception for his step-dancing. The chorus, whose dresses are both beautiful in colour and design, combine admirably with the principals in making the show a very enjoyable entertainment.

"THE BLUE LAGOON," At the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

Woolwich playgoers are this week being given a treat by the performance of "The Blue Lagoon," by T. C. Wray's company.

The chief characters of Dick, the youth, and Emmeline are played by Dennis Trent and Laurie Gramshaw, with all the charm and sympathy of which they are capable (and that is saying a good deal). Of the eccentric Lestrange, H. P. Owen gives a faithful and convincing personation; while the quaint and amusing old Irishman, Paddy Button, is in the hands of Robert Ashby. Moreover, his interpretation was so faithful as to prove equal to the occasion of his tragic death from the "never to wake" berries.

The dramatic representation of de Vere Stacpoole's famous novel is given throughout with more than common interest and charm, and the scenic effects alone are well worth seeing, the wreck being specially good.

"THE FUN SHOP."

Musical Burlesque, in Six Scenes, Written by George Ray, Music by Fred Chappelle, Produced for the First Time in London at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, Monday, May 15.

This new burlesque is, as its title suggests, full of merry moments, varied by many pleasing songs. The play, which was well received on its initiation to London audiences on Monday evening, was produced at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, early in the year, and since has pursued a successful career in the provinces.

The producers have hit on a capital idea to carry on the business of a "Fun Shop." In the opening scene we discover that it is the first night of a new production. To the bewilderment of the manager the low comedian has "pinched" the book, and appearances are dead against a show that night. However, after the usual theatrical blarney and "scenes" behind, each artist determines to do his level best, and out of this "The Fun Shop" evolves. Better still, a genuine success is scored.

There is plenty of scope for Mr. Fred Miller to exploit his funniosities. Also in song he scored, notably in "Who Stole the Plot?" in association with Mr. Bernard Sinclair and with Miss Milly Deane in "Nothing But the Truth." Miss Freda Francis was bright and piquant, and sang with verve "Happy," "Pucker Up and Whistle," and a capital duet, "Sally," in conjunction with Mr. Bernard Sinclair. This latter gentleman also made good with Miss Vivienne Compton in "The Sheik." Matt Leamore ably assisted in humour, and sang a couple of comical ditties with gusto.

The specialities included some good dancing by Miss Freda Francis and Matt Leamore, while the "Fishermen" scena, "Big Game Hunting," and "On Board the Arethusa," in which the comedians made good, pleased the audience. The burlesque is well staged by the Bros. Ray, and the chorus and orchestra helped in the success.

"THE YELLOW TICKET," At the Brixton Theatre.

This sensational play was enthusiastically received by a full house on Monday evening. The interest never flagged, and the adventures of the poor Russian Jewess in pre-war Russia, and the stern realities of the system in vogue at that period kept the house in rapt attention.

The acting of Mr. Ernest E. Norris as Baron Andryoff, the head of the Russian Secret Police, was very fine; Mr. Frank Henry, as Julian Rolfe, the English journalist, was forceful and emphatic; Miss Loti Ford, as Marya Varenka, gave a very realistic embodiment of the Rusian Jewess; Mr. Fred Hodson, as John Seaton, and Mr. Roy Futvoye wer seen to advantage; and in minor parts Messrs. Laurie Ellwood, Sydney Fiennes and Edward St. Alban were all excellent.

Chest, Throat AND Lung Troubles,
Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, Stiffness of the Limbs and Joints, and other painful symptoms yield readily to
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especially when aided by the blood-purifying action of
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In cases of PILES and FISTULA the combination forms an amazingly successful treatment.

THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NEWS AND NOTES.

IN THE CONDUCTOR'S CHAIR.

FREDERICK DIXON.

Mr. Frederick Dixon, the popular musical director of the Hammersmith Cinema, known to all and sundry as the Broadway, first saw the light of day about half a

FREDERICK DIXON.

century ago, and inherited musical ability from his father, the late F. A. Dixon, and is practically self-taught. His keenness for music prompted him in the early days to form a musical society known as "Ye Fortye Goode Fellowes," the members of which numbered, amongst others, Miss Carrie Herwin, Messrs. Leo Sheffield, Will Pepper and Harry Hemsley, and, with the late Henry Trotere, the celebrated composer, he collaborated in many a musical feast.

When the present picture craze started he saw the great future that lay in this direction, and became engaged as a pianist at a Clapham Junction cinema, but it was not long before he jumped to the position of musical director with a fine orchestra of his own, and so started on his present career.

After a few years of unqualified success at this house Mr. Dixon decided to exploit more lucrative fields, and took over his present position at Hammersmith under the very genial managing directorship of the late J. W. Wood, where he has now been installed for a great number of years, the only break being when he answered the country's call and went to France during the great war. He has a talented orchestra, of twenty-six under his charge, and a wonderful library of English and Continental music.

The Broadway Cinema is one of the few London Houses that give first presentations of films as soon as released, and the huge crowds that pack the building at each session testify their appreciation of the music that is performed during the showing of the pictures. Mr. Dixon has persuaded the managing director to do away with all curtains and draperies and to introduce a novel sound-screen over the heads of the orchestra by which he can control at will from the piano and deflect the sound from the whole or any part of the orchestra into the auditorium, with the result that his men find their work 50 per cent. easier and play more naturally, besides being infinitely brighter and crisper in effect. It is satisfactory to know that Mr. Dixon still holds his position under the new management. He is organist of the Bedford Lodge of Freemasons, No. 157, a position he has held for a considerable number of years.

WOOD WIND INSTRUMENTS.

Makers of musical instruments are finding it difficult (says the Federation of British Music Industries) to obtain the supplies of cocus wood which are, or at any rate used to be, considered necessary for the manufacture of the best class of flute and clarinet. Supplies of cocus wood used to be obtained from the West Indies, and, when the native was active in procuring the timber, it was no uncommon thing years ago for a ton of the wood to be sold on the quayside at Liverpool for as little as £3. This allowed the carefully selected wood for the manufacture of instruments to be sold at about £20 per ton. The price is now in the neighbourhood of £60, and the supply is decidedly limited. A very useful and efficient substitute has, however, been found in African blackwood, and on this timber manufacturers are now mainly relying for the making of wood wind instruments. The finished British product is superior to any of its foreign rivals.

Special Chaminade Concert.

This concert, announced for the 27th inst., is, owing to Mme. Chaminade's illness, postponed.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

A musical festival to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of this institution will be held from July 10 to July 22 next. The proceedings will include a thanksgiving service at St. Paul's Cathedral, a series of twelve chamber concerts given by past and present students at Æolian Hall, six performances of English opera at the R.A.M., two dramatic performances, a reception to all friends of the R.A.M. at Queen's Hall, three orchestral concerts, and distribution of prizes to students of the Academy, at Queen's Hall, by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, K.G.

Violinists' Scholarship.

The Guildhall School of Music is offering for competition a scholarship for violinists in memory of the late John Saunders, who was professor at the School. A capital sum has been collected and invested which produces an income of £50 per annum. Candidates must be British-born and not over 25 years of age. The last day for receiving entries is June 1. Application forms may be obtained at the Guildhall School of Music, John Carpenter-street, E.C.4.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

THE VATICAN CHOIR.

At the Albert Hall.

Their tour, including a premier visit to Great Britain, with two dates at the Royal Albert Hall, is a memorable event for the world-famous choir from the Sixtine Chapel and the Roman Basilicas, and reflects the eminent management of Daniel Mayer Co. in every detail. The Vatican Choir has rarely been heard outside the Papal precincts, and the standard of its work, the thoroughness with which suitable voices are sought for, and the specialisation in the works of Palestrina with others of this school of composition, is of great interest in this country, already, in turn, famous for madrigalian singing. Of the voices it must be stated that they are of a distinctly Italian character—rather operatic in style—and it is notable that this renders comparison with any British male voice choir, a difficulty although, in gradations of power and tone colour, the choir is of kaleidoscopic perfection in response to a conductor whose method dispenses with baton or demonstrative gesture. The quality of the boys, and male sopranos, is rather more feminine than our boys generally, the counter tenors and altos quite perfect, the latter obtaining some golden effects by using a very open "oo" tone, at the right moment. The basses and baritones were very remarkable for a sonorous or, veiled, round open euphonium-like tone, at will, with the tenors of quite Caruso-like resonance—most effective.

A long programme, opened with a brief Response that warmed the voices to some very finished performances of such numbers as "Vox Dilecti Mei" (a motet for five voices); a superb Response "Caligaverunt oculi Mei"; a glorious motet by Orlando di Lasso "Velociter"; but, possibly, the most perfect performance was the Palestrina motet "Exultate Deo," for five voices, followed by a magnificent "Gloria," not on the programme. Encores were many; the choir, about sixty strong, amply filled the great hall, the finest of their remarkable diminuendo singing carrying perfectly with a remarkable clarity of diction.

The concert was throughout an event of first-class interest, and none appeared to enjoy it more than the choir boys of H.M. Chapel Royal, Savoy.

LAMOND'S RECITAL.

Lamond's recital on Saturday afternoon attracted a goodly audience to the Queen's Hall, and the eminent pianist proved to be in fine fettle. The big works, which included Beethoven's Sonata in E Flat major, and Schumann's "Carnaval," bore evidence in particular to M. Lamond's mastery of his craft. Thus, the varying nuances of "Carnaval" were clearly demonstrated, and throughout the lengthy programme his technique lost nothing of its precision. Several lighter pieces were deftly executed, one of Gabriel Fauré's "Romances sans Paroles," for instance, and one of "Glazounov's Three Miniatures," whilst the programme was opened by Brahm's difficult variations on a Theme by Paganini (Op. 53). There was a big demonstration at the end, and M. Lamond was prevailed upon to supply an "encore."

MAIDSTONE ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.

The Society's twelfth annual concert was held in the Corn Exchange, Maidstone, on Wednesday last. Under the direction of Mr. Frederick Cole, the hon. conductor, a fine orchestra of 82 performers had a most appreciative reception. Mr. Albert Fransella gave a delightful flute solo, and, in response to an encore, a "flute duet"—"Humoresque"—on his own flute, a most remarkable performance. The tit-bit of the evening was the symphony, "From the New World," by the Bohemian composer, Dvorák, a great work in every sense, full of emotion and colour. Under Mr. Cole's direction this symphony was played with delightful precision, and was most enthusiastically received. Other well-known items were the suite "Peer Gynt (No. 2)," "Grieg," and the famous march and chorus from "Tannhauser," the favourite of Wagner's masterpieces. Mr. Norman Williams as a vocalist was delightful, his handling of a "Wayfarer's Night Song" (Easthope Martin) being exceptionally fine.

WELL-KNOWN VIOLINIST'S REAPPEARANCE.

Leo Strockoff, who has been absent from the London concert platform for some time, has recently played with great success in France and Spain, and is making his reappearance at the Wigmore Hall on Friday afternoon, the 26th inst. Since he was last here he is stated to have been working very hard, and reports to hand from Paris indicate that the effect upon his playing has been remarkable. The most important feature of his programme will be the first of Arnold Bax's two violin sonatas, accompanied by the composer. The remainder of the bill will comprise Chausson's "Poème" and the usual group of miscellaneous pieces.

DANCE AND DRAMA ENTERTAINMENT.

A successful entertainment was given on Thursday at 26, West-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, one of the most interesting features of which, by reason of its novelty, was a scene from "Pride and Prejudice." Lady Catherine's remonstrance from Jane Austen's novel was rendered with spirit and character by Miss Winifred St. Clair as the adamantine aristocrat Lady de Bourgh, and Miss Irene Greenleaf (also a capital pianoforte player) as the demure but dauntless and defiant Elizabeth Bennett. The closet scene from "Hamlet" was well rendered by Miss St. Clair as the moody Dane, Miss Sylvia White good as the Queen, and Miss Lucy Fanshawe as Polonius. Viola's wooing from "Twelfth Night" was well rendered by Misses St. Clair, Flossie Braham and Betty Buchanan. The dancing part of the programme was safe in the hands of Miss Sylvia Thornhill, and included a classical dance by Daisy Barnett, "Tarantella" by Sylvia herself, a pas de deux by Josie Barbero and Florrie Mackenzie, and dances by the little pupils. "The Glowworm" song and dance by Miss Florrie Mackenzie was pretty, and "The Piper of Dreams" was well rendered by Miss Jeanne Elton, of the Æolian Concert Party. Acrobatic dancing by Misses Nellie Gamble and Winnie Cross also figured in the programme.

ROYAL NORTHERN HOSPITAL FETE.

The funds of that deserving institution, the Royal Northern Hospital (late the Great Northern Central Hospital), are augmented each year by various al fresco functions. The first function of the present season took the form of a Fête and Fancy Fair, held at "Arcadia," Church End, Finchley, on Saturday last, and was favoured by almost ideal weather. Viscountess Barrington came down to open the proceedings, and stall-holders included the Marchioness of Queensberry, Mrs. Gilbert G. Panter, and Miss Kitty Willoughby, the well-known lady theatrical producer. In a Hall hard-by, two shows worked well for the good of the cause. These were the Children's Ballet, arranged by Mrs. Eola C. Sperring, and that clever body of entertainers "The Searchlights Concert Party," who are ever to the fore at Charity's behest. Other attractions included the Coldstream Guards' Band, under the direction of Lieut. R. G. Evans, and both a Thé and a Flannel Dance, enlivened by solo speciality dances by Miss Joan Panter. This young lady, who has already appeared with success at the Gaiety and New Oxford Theatres, should go far in her profession.

HUMOUR AND MELODY.

From Messrs. Reeder and Walsh, 17, Mortimer Street, W., comes "The Tideless Sea," a song of a serious type, with words by Robert Nelson and music by Lauri Bowen. Its theme is the ships and the sailor-men that never came sailing home. The sentiment rings true, the music is broad, dignified and expressive. It is essentially a song for a robust baritone or bass, and Mr. Harry Barratt has it in his repertoire.

Three new musical monologues, cleverly and amusingly written, should interest entertainers at the pianoforte. "A Fragment of Old China" (words by Robert Magill, music by Stephen Kirby, performed by Fred Milner) is a neat burlesque of the familiar Chinese tea-house song-scena. "Love in a Car" deals with the difficulties of proposing to the girl of your heart in an auto that is many degrees staler than a nice new Rolls. In this case Robert McGill's words are set by F. W. Richmond. "Domes the Detective," written by Fred Rome and Thomas Sidney (who also sings it), is a skit on the methods of an up-to-date "sleuth." In "Try a little Fox-Trot," by Fred W. Leigh and Charles Ancliffe, dancers and singers will find an exhilarating example of the ever-popular rhythm. It is published for both full and small orchestras.

Mountain Ash Welsh Choir.

The Mountain Ash Male Voice Choir, conducted by Professor T. Glyndwr Richards, will make an appearance at Queen's Hall, on Friday, June 23, when the same programme will be performed as that given at the Royal Command Performance at Windsor Castle, on the 18th of last month.

A MUSICAL CAUSERIE.

BY

HUBERT BATH.

So far the outstanding feature of the musical season is the remarkable success of the British National Opera at Covent Garden. The long waiting and patient slogging for many months to get the concern going has been amply rewarded by the splendid public response, which is richly deserved by this fine body of musicians. What pride of achievement must swell the manly breast of that fine pioneer "Bobby" Radford, who did most of the spade-work!

* * *

Great interest and curiosity has been aroused, amongst musicians in particular, by the announcement of Mr. Pemberton Billing's new gramophone invention whereby, according to statements in the papers, one record will be capable of playing fifteen songs without stopping, and whole operas can be included on one record. It does sound rather a "tall order"! But the principal point is (apart from the strength of the needle!), how will it benefit the professional musician? Will the author and composer receive, say, their farthing royalty apiece for the record on *each* song on the one record—which, according to the Press statements, will be issued at the price of the present one-piece record—or only the farthing royalty for fifteen songs inclusive on the one record? Also, will the recording singer (I almost wrote "angel"!) receive a fee per song on the one record or a royalty on the record of fifteen songs? We should all like to know more about it without giving and patent secrets away. Personally, I think it will be of very doubtful advantage, if any, to the professional musician.

* * *

When are we going to have that real up-to-date comic opera by the modern Gilbert and Sullivans? It is waiting somewhere, but no one can be found to read it. As long as there are only about three musical producers and entrepreneurs in London who can read a script and visualise it on the stage in their minds I think the outlook is rather hopeless. The majority are obliged to run over to Paris, New York, or Vienna to see and hear things actually in front of them. Why not do as so many of our actors-managers used to do?—employ an intelligent first-class reader to read for them? It would be worth their while, and they would be bound to strike something good sooner or later. If one hasn't any imagination of one's own you can always buy someone else's!

* * *

I wonder if anyone can remember a time when things were as dull generally as they seem to be at present in the publishing and retail trade? The retailers are sitting tight on their credit, the publishers are waiting and hoping, and dare not press matters too far, at the same time also sitting tight, while the composers and authors are still writing and waiting—but not hoping. As to the travellers, well, many calls are made but few are ordered, so I hear.

* * *

The municipal band and concert season will soon be in full swing; in fact, has already unofficially started in the parks and open spaces. As to the things with which I am concerned, I can say that this season is going to be a big test for future ones. The public want plenty of good, popular stuff—the latest up-to-datest. They will not stand for any of the year-old stuff dished up again and again. In this direction, as regards the bands, it is splendidly refreshing to see an enterprising firm like Messrs. Francis, Day and Hunter taking the bull by the horns and lashing out with a first-class, "posh," up-to-date Military Journal and ditto, ditto, ditto Brass Band Journal at a ridiculously low figure, and, what is more important still, promising their many clients to supply them with their latest at the earliest possible moment from the original publication. That's the stuff!

* * *

I have followed with considerable interest the controversy which has been raging in one of our big dailies by the big guns on the subject of the composition of our military bands. There is one question of doing away with the E flat trumpets, and another of doing away with one or other of the saxophones. It is a pity about the latter just now, at a time when they are coming into favour owing to the jazz movement. It is of considerable importance to the men themselves, as at some time or other they have got to get their living by these instruments or add to their meagre military pay at the present time with a few outside jobs when off duty. There seems to be a lack of human foresight and personal regard for the welfare of the men by the powers that be. Another point is that our arrangers have not always made the best use of these particular instruments in their arrangements. Why not change the E flat trumpets for the more practical B flat?

* * *

With controversies going on about the question of opera and its paying proposition and the shaky condition of some of the well-known companies necessitating financial reconstruction, &c., it is perhaps a little consoling to know that we are not the only country with these problems to solve. Italy—the Land of Song and opera—is in a pretty bad way, too. It was bad enough some fifteen months ago, when the production of my one-act Italian opera, "Bubbole," had to be abandoned at the last moment at the Filo Dramatico Theatre in Milan owing to labour troubles both inside and outside the theatre; but it appears to be worse than ever now. I ran into my friend Hughes Macklin, the operatic tenor who did such good work with the Carl Rosa. He has just returned after twelve months at the principal opera houses in Milan, Rome and Florence, where he has made good judging by the wonderful notices he showed in the principal Italian papers. But he has had to return, as things are in such a bad state with these labour disputes. People are not spending their money on music; they can not, apparently.

* * *

Having read most of the reviews of Sir Charles Stanford's new book, "Interludes and Reflections," I see they are practically unanimous in their condemnation of his unqualified gibes at the works of Richard Strauss. Undoubtedly some of Strauss's works are weak, ungainly, and "unsightly to the ear"; but there are others of great and supreme beauty, such as "Don Juan" and the "Death and Transfiguration." The latter work has always particularly interested me on account of the extraordinary resemblance, almost note for note, between the principal "transfiguration" theme and the second principal theme in Sullivan's "In Memoriam" overture. The same idea is at the back of each. It may be another instance of "great minds think alike." But also, we are aware of the curious Teutonic facility for—shall I call it?—"applied force"? I wonder if Richard Strauss ever heard this particular work of Sullivan's, whose works were very popular in Germany at one time? To be quite fair, we must remember that Sullivan, too, had a curious facility for producing—well, "coincident tunes"!

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The *Daily Telegraph* Tuesday, April 18:—"A special feature of the Easter Monday evening concert at the Queen's Hall was the appearance of the Russian Balalaika Orchestra. It was good to hear them play this refreshing music with such skill, taste and authority, etc., etc. The Russian Cossack dances were performed with characteristic animation, etc., etc."

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CHILTERN ARTS CLUB.

The Chiltern Arts Club gave an excellent concert performance of the ever-popular "Pirates of Penzance" on Saturday, the 6th inst., at the Sycamore Hall, Amersham. The place was packed with an appreciative audience.

The director, Dr. Irvine, sang the part of Major-General Stanley himself, and sang it extremely well, while Mr. Anderson, as the Sergeant of Police, scored with "When a Felon's Not Engaged in His Employment."

Among the ladies, the Mabel of Mrs. Roberts was a very striking piece of work. Carefully studied and tuneful, her rendering was a very happy performance. Mrs. Borrow (Kate), like the other professionals in the cast, was a shining example of how much can be made by clever handling of a small part, and the same might be said of Mrs. Page (Ruth), who sang delightfully. The Frederick of Mr. Montgomery was adequate but undistinguished. Miss Baxter, at the piano, worked hard, and the performers owed a great deal to her skilful playing. With regard to the chorus, they were not quite up to the Club's standard.

At the conclusion of the programme a speech was made by Dr. Wynne congratulating Dr. Irvine on the performance and regretting that it would be his final one n Amersham.

BEATRICE FORD'S MATINEE.

Miss Beatrice Ford's matinée performance of Walter Summers' fairy play "Cinderella" at the New Palace Theatre, Westcliff, by her pupils was a great success. Dancing was naturally the chief feature, and Miss Ford herself as Prince Caromel set the fashion to her little pupils, who proved delightful exponents of the terpsichorean art.

PARKHILL PAVILION, CROYDON.

This pavilion has opened under the direction of the Kingsway Music Co. and the Milgrom Concert Direction, and "The Frolics of 1922" will appear throughout the season. The company includes last year's favourite, Bernard Hudson, as comedian and producer; Phyllis Ferguson, soprano; Charles Grant, baritone; Renée Garde, entertainer; Vivienne Groves, soubrette; Joyce Gilbert, the piano girl; and Douglas Gwynne, light comedian and coon impersonator. Mr. Wyn Ewart is again manager.

New Empire-Day Song.

With such a distinguished patronage as H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd George, and the Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, M.P., Prime Minister of Australia, Miss Myrtle Rest-Haven, the lyric writer, believes that her new "Empire" song, "Beneath the Southern Cross," which she is giving to the British public, will prove a rival in popularity to "Rule Britannia" and "What is the Meaning of Empire Day?"

Miss Rest-Haven is a great traveller, and wrote her lyric, which consists of two verses and a chorus, inspired by her view of the Southern Cross phenomenon from the Indian Ocean.

Miss Lucy Owden, a pupil of Miss Evangeline Florence, and also of the amateur class of the Mayfair School of Dancing, who is said to possess a beautiful high soprano voice of bird-like quality, will give a vocal recital at the Steinway Hall on Saturday next. Miss Owden is only seventeen years of age, and her repertoire consists of a remarkably varied range of songs.

The Bath summer band season opened on Monday, the band of H.M. Royal Garrison Artillery, conductor Mr. J. T. Hurd, commencing a two weeks' engagement. Daily concerts are given in the three parks and gardens daily.

ENTERTAINERS WANTED.

GRAND PAVILION, TYNEMOUTH. Covered, first-class Dressing Rooms, Lavatories.

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CONCERT PARTIES AT WORK.

"Fashion."

Something off the beaten track in C.P. production was offered for the first time at the Paddock Gardens, Guildford, last week under the appropriate title of "Fashion." The show is exquisitely dressed. A septette of exceptionally talented artists combine to offer as pleasing a show as one could wish to see. The vocal side of the programme is well catered for by Gertrude Merry, a gifted soprano who was obliged to give double encores for her solo efforts, and Albert Hay, an excellent singer of baritone songs. Light comedy is safe in the hands of Gladys Linnell, a vivacious soubrette and clever dancer, and Jack Mayne, who scores with dude material. Broader comedy, clean and clever, is the forte of Will Seymour, who directs the show with excellent judgment. Toni Farrell, a pianist and entertainer of more than ordinary merit, is responsible for many original items, while the efforts of Angel Maude are much appreciated—comedy cameos from life being her big card. "Fashion" was produced by Horace Manger and controlled by Messrs. Gane and Morley.

The Mirthquakes.

This popular concert party gave a rehearsal at the People's Palace on Friday evening, and proved their ability and talent and ample equipment. The party consists of two comedians, D. Cecil Mayfair and F. Gerrard; two sopranos, Misses W. Hobbs and Souter, and a tenor, Mr. A. Alexander, with Miss C. Williams at the piano. "Masks and Faces à la Pagliacci," "Current Puns," "Peggy O'Neil," "Kiss Me Again," "and "Haunting" are among the concerted numbers given by the original Mirthquakes. "Women Haven't Any Mercy on a Man" and "How to Play a Violin" typify the capital comic selections, and "A Dancing Lesson," "Gretna Green," and "For You Alone," and other songs, do duty, while mention of a harlequin dance by Miss D. Walker must not be omitted.

Jovialty.

The talented artists forming this company, which was presented by Mr. Newman Croft at the New Pavilion, Morecambe, are Peggy Dallas, comedienne; Mary Athol, soprano; Jessie Lewis, soubrette; Betty Briggs, specialty dancer; Al Bonaire, female impersonator; Billy Faubert, light comedian and dancer; Geo. Hadwyn, piano; and Gene Fields, comedian.

CONCERT PARTIES ON TOUR.

ARCADIANS, THE. — May 15, Jesmond Pav., Newcastle; 22, Arcadian Pav., Bradford.
ARCADY.—May 15, Picture House, Sutton.
BUBBLES.—May 15, Pav., Worksop.
BUSYBODIES, THE.—May 15, The Lawn, Erith.
CATLIN'S PIERROTS. — May 15, Spa, Bridlington.
CHARADE.—May 15, Arcadian Pav., Halifax.
CHUMS, THE. — May 15, Summer Pav., Tunbridge Wells.
CIGARETTES, THE.—May 15, Olympian Gdns., Rock Ferry.
CRITERIONS, THE.—May 15, Pier, New Brighton.
FASCINATORS, THE.—May 15, Pal., Normanton.
FARCE.—May 15, St. James's Hall, Harrogate.
FASHION.—May 15, Kingston.
FRILLS AND FLOUNCES.—May 15, Kinema, Cleethorpes; 22, Pier, St. Annes.
GAIETIES.—May 15, Stowhill Pav., Newport.
GIPSIES.—May 15, Hippo., Ashford.
HOBBIES.—May 15, Pierrotland, Bideford; 22, Abbey T., Ramsey.
IDEALS, THE.—May 15, Paddock Gdns., Guildford; 22, Leyton.
JAKE-A-LOO. — May 15, Electric, Boro' Green; 22, Pavilion, Redhill.
JOVIAL JOLLIES.—May 15, Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
JOY.—May 15, Pav., Redhill.
LIVE WIRES, THE.—May 15, Pav., East Ham.
MASKS AND FACES.—May 15, Pav., Seaforth.
MELODY MIXERS THE.—May 15, Malpass Circuit, Kent.
MERRIONS, THE.—May 15, T.H., Sale.
NAP.—May 15, Emp., Wilnecote.
NEW CADETS.—May 15, Pall., Southport.
NOVELTY.—May 15, Chester.
OPTIMISTS, THE.—May 15, Lyric, Hull.
ORANGE CLUB, THE.—May 15, Coronation Gdns., Leyton.
PEACHES.—May 15, R., Bury St. Edmunds; 22, County, Chelmsford.
PLAYMAKERS, THE.—May 15, Central Pal., Hoylake; 22, Stowhill Pav., Newport.
POPPIES, THE.—May 15, Pier Pav., Plymouth; 22, S. Parade Pier, Southsea.
PRO RATAS, THE.—May 15, Lloyd Park Pav., Walthamstow.
QUIXOTES, THE. — May 15, Imperial, Newton Abbot.
RAMBLERS, THE. — May 15, Pier, Hastings.
ROGUES, THE.—May 15, Glasgow.
SEVEN NOBODIES, THE.—May 15, Arc. Pav., Leeds.
SUMMITS, THE.—May 15, Emp., Glossop.
SUPREMACY.—May 15, New, Tonbridge.
VAGABONDS.—May 15, Palladium, Southport; 22, O.H., Buxton.
VARIETY.—May 15, Rusholme Pav., Manchester; 22, Town Hall, Sale.
VERSATILES, THE. — May 15, Pav., Derby.
VESTAS, THE.—May 15, Crown, Eccles.
WIG WAGS, THE.—May 15, Pal., Whitstable.
XL'S, THE. — May 15, Clarence Pier, Southsea.

"Poupée."

A novel idea is being put into force at the Rehearsal Theatre, Bedford-street, during the month of May from 3 to 6 p.m. It is the exploitation of the latest ballroom dance, "Poupée," produced by Lucien de Roche Brune, with specially composed music by Sylvia Thornhill, orchestrated by J. Carter.

MRS. ARIA WRITES

About Fashions On and Off the Stage, and of Many Other Matters.

THE older philosopher observed upon the constant change of things, long before the Frenchman pronounced that the feminine gender should be exclusively endowed with a reputation for altering a point of view.

Anyway, we may grant in the world of art which belongs, I suppose, to men and women alike, that tastes are definitely of the divergent habit, and the fancy of yesterday is not inevitably the taste of to-day or to-morrow. Which reflections I base upon the prices given for the pictures of Sir Henry Irving, painted by Edwin Long, R.A.

Three figures went to these special orders but nevertheless at Christie's last week less than ninety pounds was paid for the trio, while there is no doubt that the Richard the Third was, in its way, as fine a presentment of the great actor, as it was an example of the good work of a good painter. *Sic transit*, which, being liberally translated, may read that I am desperately enraged that I was not there to see and grab for the ridiculous sum of thirty-three pounds odd that special Richard, which I should have loved to add to my possessions, and find a familiar on my wall.

I wonder what fortunate American is now enjoying the privilege which should have been mine had I not been at the time enduring what the doctor so soothingly and so inappropriately described as a rest cure.

This is to me a most hateful programme, never attainable within a hundred miles of London. However, as it is an abandoned condition now, I am endeavouring to forget it, and remember more gratefully the description of Henrietta Watson's dresses in "Lass o' Laughter," at the Queen's Theatre. The picture here needs few words to elucidate it, when it is known that the newest satin in mulberry colour is put to its credit, interwoven with silver, while there are silver bead ornaments at the waist, the open sleeves are trimmed with a bright cerise *glacé*, which is also applied with silver to serve as trimming. The small hat of the same colour which completes this is covered with feathers of a fine and modest demeanour, drooping their ends from the crown to below the nape.

I quote again the same authority for another dress worn by this gifted artist — who, parenthetically, I would mention as being well endowed with the clothes instinct—fashioned of red *crêpe de chine* overlaid with gold, with the unusual note of orange most effectively pronounced.

Tobacco-hued *crêpe* forms the third costume, girdled with jewels, and endowed with a cloak of a saffron shade decked with red fox fur, the smart hat which finishes this being beset with a group of tiny wings.

A novelty in night-gowns which, however, must not be imitated by everyone, since the result would not be universally becoming, is of orange silk, combined with black and white, and orange fringe. Some little difculty may be expected should that fringe be subjected to the machinations of the laundress, even the washerwoman of home industry could scarcely be trusted not to let it suffer at her hands.

Which reminds me I have naturally been most interested in night gowns since they have been my only wear, and I have realised the greatest economy is the purchase of 3¼ yards of *crêpe-de-chine*, which may be fashioned on the kimono hole-in-the-top shape, being careful that the square or round *décolletage* of choice is contrived three inches higher at the back than the front.

The front should be embellished either with a lace *motif* some three inches in depth, or an embroidered group of flowers no more extensive, all hems being treated to *picot*, while the seams under the arms are shaped, stitched by machine one way, and by hand the other. You could make such garments yourself complete in two days of easy work at a cost of less than thirty shillings, which is, after all, what we have to pay for machine-made inferiorities under the auspices of the least distinguished *lingerie* stores.

And while I am on the frugal track of clothes for bed, I should counsel the purchase of a good-sized imitation Shetland square at a price of some six shillings, and permitting this with a button-holing of silk, and the hole for the head method applied, to serve as a jacket.

Although, to be sure, the like has not been much needed lately, and I have been rather sympathetic with the most chronic invalid of my acquaintance, who has been forced to set aside a delightful little waist-long sacque of fine white ermine lined with pink chiffon, which indeed utters the last word of extravagance.

I am so delighted at the news that Gladys Cooper is to play The Second Mrs. Tanqueray with the ideal cast. June is fixed for the date, and already the frocks are on the carpet, so to speak, since all kinds must necessarily be requisitioned. We have the simple girl and the complicated woman, pre-eminently respectable, with no little aristocratic blood in her veins, and then, too, as well as the heroine, we have the ex-chorus girl; all must be typically equipped. What opportunities for Mr. Reville—no, I won't say to revel, but I mean it, which weakness I must be forgiven, because I have already announced myself as recently retired on the sick list. Such a waste of time when I might have been interviewing new fashions in the best ateliers where they best flourish.

But—anent Mrs. Tanqueray—there are rumours of Parisian intervention in the costume conference.

Every visitor to the sick-room of a dress enthusiast should consider it her duty to appear in a new frock. I can cheerfully recall one or two of mine thus distinguishing themselves, and I would emphatically commend a broad-belted costume of navy blue gaberdine, with saxe blue hems five inches in depth, covered with rows of dark blue braid, an inch of space being left between each row. The coat was of the loose order with elongated points upon the hips but otherwheres inclining to be short, and the most righteous hat was of dark blue Bangkok with a tremendous feather of saxe blue curling its pompous way round the back.

MISS HENRIETTA WATSON IN "LASS O' LAUGHTER."

HELP FOR THE HOSPITALS.

Stage and Cinema Support.

Sir Gerald du Maurier presided at the first meeting of the Theatrical, Music Hall, and Cinema Main Committee, representing every branch of the entertainment world, held by the courtesy of Major Harold Wernher (member of the King's Fund Council) at his residence, Someries House, Regent's Park.

The Chairman having pointed out the wide nature of the present combined appeal on behalf of the hospitals of London and the necessity for the maintenance of the voluntary system, it was unanimously decided that the entertainment world would give the appeal its strong support.

The Chairman intimated that Mr. George Grossmith and Sir Oswald Stoll had very kindly consented to become chairmen of the sub-committees, which will be set up to co-ordinate respectively the efforts in the theatrical and music-hall spheres of activity. The arrangements which the sub-committees hope to carry through will include several striking innovations and novel methods of appeal.

The committee consists of the following ladies and gentlemen: Sir Gerald du Maurier (chairman), Lady Tree, Lady Wyndham, Lady Alexander, Lady de Frece, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mrs. Kendal, Miss Gladys Cooper, Sir Alfred Butt, Sir Oswald Stoll, Sir Charles Hawtrey, Sir Walter de Frece, M.P., Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Matheson Lang, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Andre Charlot, Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. J. A. E. Malone, Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. R. M. Dix, Mr. Albert Voyce, Mr. Fisher White, Mr. B. A. Meyer, Mr. R. H. Gillespie, Mr. Arthur Taylor, Mr. F. E. Adams, Mr. H. Marlowe, and Mr. James Hackett.

PROFESSIONAL LADIES' PRESENTATION.

"If you look on people with suspicion, and think they are not going to be friendly, they will never be your friends," said Father Boyd Barrett, S.J., at the Convent of the Cenacle, Stamford Hill, on Sunday last.

The remark was appropriate, for Father Boyd Barrett's friendship to members of the dramatic and musical professions has been proved. Two years ago he organised a monthly retreat for ladies of these professions. Five gathered at that first retreat, and now forty ladies had met to present Father Barrett with a silver match-box on the occasion of his leaving for Ireland to take up a Professorship in Dublin University. Only sixpence each was subscribed, and although many members sent more, the money was returned. It was to be a souvenir, not a handsome gift.

Miss Ida Molesworth thanked Father Boyd Barrett for his patience as a pioneer in those early days when so few came to the retreats. She called on Miss Balvaird-Hewett, in the absence of Miss Margaret Mackenzie, secretary of the Catholic Stage Guild, to present the little gift.

Father Barrett said he had a list of the names of those who had subscribed for the gift, and they would always be remembered in his Masses. He hoped they would be "better and better every day."

These retreats will continue on the first Sunday of every month.

At a recent performance of "A Royal Divorce" (Mr. W. W. Kelly's Company) at the Theatre Royal, Worcester, the ladies in the audience were each presented with a miniature in oils of the original Napoleon and Josephine as a souvenir. The band of the 8th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment played on the stage the musical piece, "The Battle of Waterloo," with special limelight and scenic effects.

NORAH EYRE'S DANCING DISPLAY.

On Thursday a pleasing exhibition of operatic, classical and character dancing was given at the Chiswick Town Hall, by some seventy little ladies recruited from Miss Eyre's pupils at Ealing, Barnes and Chiswick. The dancing was excellent, and reflected great credit on the training they had received. The pièce de résistance was "Titania," a ballet founded on Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream." The part of Bottom was taken by Mr. Harry Peach, who also assisted Miss Eyre as producer and stage managed the entertainment. Good work was done by Isobel Simes; Miss Margaret Stevens was an excellent Puck and a very neat little dancer. Some neat dancing was contributed by Betty Tims as Peasblossom. The next item was "A Japanese Ideal." The part of the mother was played by Miss Audrey Peach, who rendered her song with good effect. The rôle of her child was very prettily sustained by a little tot, Mary Bayly-Chapple, and Keith Jamieson was excellent as the Little Old Man. This was followed by "Bedtime in the Nursery," in which all did well. Then came dances well rendered by Betty Time, Eileen Higgins, "Folie Bergère," and Isobel Simes—a "Peacock Dance." The closing number, "From Kitchen to Ball-room," was very effective and bright. In the ball-room a gavotte was well rendered by Beatrice Fraser, Adelaide Fraser, Joan Edney and Eileen Higgins. The Minuet by Norah Gayes and John Walters was pleasing. The music of "Titania" was composed by R. Barclay-Wilson, who accompanied the ballet. Miss Bertha Barclay presided at the piano. The acting management was in the experienced hands of Arthur J. Barclay. At the conclusion Mr. J. Persich presented a handsome floral tribute from the Chiswick Empire subscribed for by the children who last Christmas performed in "Father Christmas Comes to Town." Mr. Persich, in a brief speech, expressed how much they all felt indebted to Miss Norah Eyre for the hard work she had put into that production and for her kindness to the little ones.

LIVERPOOL PIONEER PLAYERS.

This popular company will present to-day (Wednesday) at Crane Hall, Hanover-street, Liverpool, their final productions of the season.

Mr. Basil Macdonald Hasting's light comedy in three acts, "Love—and What Then?" will be the main attraction; this being its first production by amateurs. Mr. Cyril Maude, the popular actor, appeared in it at the London Playhouse a few years ago, where it achieved great success.

The three-act comedy will be preceded by a curtain raiser by Mr. Frederick Watson, whose comedy will be presented by the Pioneer Players for the first time on any stage, and is fortunate in having the following distinguished cast of artists, all well known and guaranteed to give an intelligent rendering of their respective parts. Mr. Walter Shore will play Henry P. Choir, the Americanised Englishman who makes the "Sentimental Journey"; Miss Marvel Hulme will play Miss Prudence Lauder; while Miss Gwen Williams as Joan; and Mr. O. H. Bateman as Dick Marples, complete the cast.

Mr. Max Wakeman, the well-known actor and producer of Miss Ada Reeves Company and the Leonard Rayne Theatres, South Africa, has been engaged to produce these plays for the Pioneer Players. The Society, although only founded in 1920, has produced 24 plays in all, most of these being for the first time in Liverpool; all being under the direction of Messrs. Genn and Bateman.

"WHO'S WHO IN THE THEATRE."

Published by Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons at 25s., and edited by John Parker, this volume will be welcomed as an invaluable work of reference in regard to theatrical people and stage matters. The number of pages has been increased to thirteen hundred, and, as in the edition published eight years ago, the principal feature is the full biographies of actors and actresses, managers, dramatists, musical composers, etc. A new departure has been the inclusion of a synopsis of playbills with complete casts from June to December, 1921. Other useful information includes a list of notable productions and principal revivals, the opening dates of West End and suburban theatres, etc. Dr. J. M. Bulloch contributes an interesting article on "Hereditary Theatrical Families," and the Obituary List contains nearly 3,000 names of stage celebrities who have passed away. In this mass of useful information on matters theatrical the only inaccuracy we have detected is one under the heading, "The Leading Critics of London Newspapers."

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Newcomers to the Gaiety — A.B.F. Collection at Huddersfield — A Versatile Actress—Presentation to W. W. Kelly.

At the Gaiety.

Miss Cecily Debenham joined the cast of "His Girl" at the Gaiety over the week-end, playing the leading part of Susan. Two new numbers have been introduced for her, "In Society" and "I Want a Man That's a Man." Another newcomer to the cast is Miss May Carpenter, in the part of Lady Diana. Miss Carpenter has just returned from touring as Alice in "The Golden Moth."

Actors' Church Union.

A meeting was held on Friday last, by invitation of Lady Alexander at her house, in connection with the forthcoming Actors Church Union Fête and Sale at Caxton Hall on Friday, June 16. Among those present were Miss Eva Moore, Miss Helen Ferrers, Mr. Kenneth Barnes, the Bishop of Birmingham, and the Bishop of Willesden. Apologies for absence were received from Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Winifred Emery, Mr. Ben Greet, Lord Lilford, and others.

Pip Powell in "Tons of Money."

Mr. Tom Walls has retired from the cast of "Tons of Money," in order to rehearse for the forthcoming Lyric production, "Whirled into Happiness." His place has been taken by Pip Powell, who scored an immediate success, and was congratulated by Mr. Tom Walls and Mr. Leslie Henson. "Tons of Money" is playing to capacity at every performance.

A.B.F. Collection at Huddersfield.

Mr. Alfred Wareing's efforts at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, in connection with the collection for the Actors' Benevolent Fund, have resulted in a total of £31 16s. 5d. Mr. Wareing was fortunate enough to secure the assistance of Mr. Ally Benson, who was a great favourite as the Dame in the last pantomime. Mr. Benson happened to be in the town topping the bill at the Music Hall, and by his witty appeal and ready repartee as he went "round the house" succeeded in collecting £14 13s. 6d "off his own bat."

A Versatile Actress.

An interesting personality in the new Aldwych show, "A Prodigal Daughter," is Miss Helena Millais, a daughter of Mr. Horace Marriott, who was for some years secretary of the original Music Hall Benevolent Fund. Miss Millais, who started her career as the "youngest leading lady on the stage," in a short time established herself as an actress of decided ability and charm. She has appeared in many successes in tragedy parts, but now she is venturing forth into another sphere of activity—in a character comedy part. She has played lead in a number of films, and written and produced three successful ones. Miss Millais, by the way, is a niece of Mr. George Audrey Payne, and cousin to Mr. Walter Payne.

Quite Zoological.

The list of current attractions in New York, writes our special correspondent includes "The Cat and the Canary," "The Hairy Ape," "The Blue Kitten," "The Hotel Mouse," "The Goldfish," "The Bat," "The Lady Bug," and "Bulldog Drummond."

A Peripatetic Playhouse.

Charles B. Cochran tells us that he has now completed his preliminary preparations for running that huge travelling theatre which he first contemplated about a couple of years ago. This perambulating playhouse will be dumped down on all sorts of London and provincial vacant groundplots by kind permission of the respective County Councils concerned.

Beginning With the Bard.

The first play at this wandering theatre will, we learn, be "Henry the Fifth." It is highly probable that that martial monarch will be played by Robert Loraine.

"Quality Street."

The present run of Sir James Barrie's charming comedy, "Quality Street," at the Haymarket, will finish on Saturday, June 3, on which date it will have reached nearly 350 performances, and been witnessed by a larger number of playgoers than on its original production over nineteen years ago. Indeed, the success of the revival has been remarkable, and there will long remain memories of the delightful performances of Miss Fay Compton and Miss Mary Jerrold as Phœbe of the Ringlets and her sister Susan, the Patty of Miss Hilda Trevelyan, and the dashing Mr. Brown of Mr. Leon Quartermaine.

"The Difference."

Another new sketch has been introduced this week into "Pot Luck" at the Vaudeville, called "The Difference," written by Mr. Dion Titheradge. In it Miss Margaret Bannerman and Mr. Herbert Munden appear, and the sketch deals with their respective pasts, Miss Bannerman playing the part of a widow, and Mr. Munden the Suitor. We have been asked to keep the story of the "plot" a secret!

All-American Theatre.

Mr. Gordon Selfridge is to give a dinner to-night (Wednesday) at Lansdowne House, to all those who are assisting in the All-American matinée at the Oxford, on the 22nd, in aid of the Pearson Memorial Fund. At the matinée Mr. J. K. Hackett will appear in an excerpt from "Othello," and it is probable that Mr. Godfrey Tearle will play Iago.

Presentation to Mr. W. W. Kelly.

Mr. W. W. Kelly, the popular proprietor of the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, was honoured on Wednesday last with a presentation from the officers of the city police force, in recognition of the generous help he has rendered to the Police Orphanage and social enterprises promoted by the force. The gift took the form of a beautiful silver salver, suitably inscribed, and the ceremony took place at the Central Police Buildings.

The Chief Constable (Mr. F. Caldwell), in making the presentation, said the gift was an appreciation of the invaluable help Mr. Kelly had for many years past extended towards them in connection with all social entertainments, and of the great help he had rendered to the Police Orphanage.

The Deputy Chief Constable (Mr. Everett), Superintendent Dawson, Superintendent Smith, and ex-Superintendent Weir added their tributes. In acknowledgment, Mr. Kelly said he had been and would always remain a warm personal friend of the orphanage. In regard to the police social entertainments, he believed in a brighter Liverpool, and so long as he could help to brighten the lives of its citizens, young and old, he intended doing so. Mr. Kelly handed the Chief Constable a cheque for the orphanage.

Everyman Theatre.

The members of the Everyman Company, who are to support Mrs. Patrick Campbell in Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler" at Hampstead during the absence of Mr. Norman Macdermott and his company at the forthcoming International Play Festival at Zurich, will include Miss Dorothy Holmes-Gore, Miss Maude Jolliffe, and Messrs. Sydney Lewis, Tom Nesbit, and Ivor Barnard.

The play will open at the Everyman Theatre on Monday next, and will run at least a fortnight. Mr. Macdermott has, through the courtesy of Reandean, Ltd., been able to arrange for it to be produced by Mr. J. H. Roberts.

Complimentary Benefit to Robert Atkins.

A complimentary benefit to Robert Atkins, for two years producer for the Old Vic. Shakespeare Company, has been arranged to take place on Saturday afternoon, the 20th inst.

Theatre Royal, Bognor.

The Theatre Royal, Bognor, is doing excellent business under the expert direction of its resident manageress, Miss Betty Tate. The season proper commences in July and lasts until September, and the bookings include "Tons of Money," "Betty," "The Edge of Beyond," "A Bill of Divorcement" and most of the leading West End attractions.

Croydon Grand.

Mr. Cyril Royce announces that for the coming summer season he has decided to revert to the twice-nightly house, commencing on May 15. This is in consideration of the wishes expressed by many of his patrons. Although the prices will be popular, Mr. Royce states that the same high standard of plays will continue to be presented.

Critics' Circle.

The annual dinner of the Circle will be held on Friday, May 26, at the Savoy Hotel, with Mr. A. B. Walkley in the chair and Sir J. M. Barrie as the guest of the evening. Mr. J. E. Vedrenne has intimated to the Circle that the Society of West End Managers would endeavour to avoid any West End production on that night. Tickets for the dinner will be 14s. 6d., and will be limited to members of the Circle and their friends.

Catholic Stage Guild.

The Catholic Stage Guild is having its annual tea-party and entertainment on May 30 at the Caxton Hall. A large gathering is expected. Miss Gwendoline Brogden, of the Co-Optimists, Miss Peggy O'Neil and Miss Hilda Trevelyan will be among the hostesses. Tickets, price 3s., are going fast, and those who wish to be present should apply at once to the secretary, 2, Robert-street, W.C.2. His Eminence the Cardinal has consented to preside at the annual general meeting of the Guild, which will take place early in July.

The French Players.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. J. T. Grein's French players at the Court Theatre played "Les Petites Curieuses," a little comedy by Tristan Bernard, which has had a great success in Paris. It was preceded by "La Nuit d'Octobre," a one-act play by Alfred de Mueset. This programme will be repeated on Thursday afternoon; and, on Sunday, there will be a special performance for subscribers only.

A Deserving Case.

Mr. Alfred Searle, who is a candidate for one of the £20 annuities granted by the Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables, has been a stage carpenter for over thirty years. For twenty of these he worked under the management of the late Sir H. Beerbohm Tree at the Haymarket and His Majesty's, and for the remaining ten under Sir Alfred Butt at the Palace. A paralytic seizure has completely disabled him for work, and it is hoped that the appeal for votes now being made on his behalf will be successful in its object.

PRODUCTIONS IN PROSPECT.

NOTES AND NEWS ON FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

"Whirled Into Happiness."

"Whirled Into Happiness" is to be produced at the Lyric to-morrow (Thursday) night. From what we already know of this piece we have good reason to expect a feast of more or less melodious mirth from that former variety star Billy Merson as a Music Hall Attendant (with strong acting and amatory aspirations); Miss Mai Bacon as a vivacious and versatile variety "stellar attraction"; Austin Melford as a barber's assistant, Tom Walls as a hatter, Miss Frances Wetherall as his worried wife, and Miss Lily St. John as his delightful daughter. The other characters include a nervous coiffeur, a nice manicurist, a curious captain, and a duke and duchess—both of whom prove very agitated aristocrats!

Some Places of the "Whirled."

It might here be added that the three acts of "Whirled Into Happiness" are laid respectively in the foyer of a mammoth music hall, the garden of the harassed hatter's villa up Hornsey way, and the interior of the chief hairdresser's emporium.

"Life's a Game."

On Thursday afternoon Miss Margaret Halstan will produce, at the Kingsway Theatre, a new comedy, by Michael Orme, entitled "Life's a Game." This will be the commencement of a short series which will be known as the Margaret Halstan Matinées. The play will be given for six matinées only, on Thursday and Friday, May 18 and 19, Monday, May 22, and Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, May 24, 25, and 26, at 2.30 p.m.

This is Miss Halstan's first venture into management.

Following is the cast:—

Lady Raunds ..... Dame May Whitty
Sir Thomas Raunds .. Stanley Turnbull
Joyce Cleeve ..... Nina Oldfield
Cordelia Cleeve .... Margaret Halstan
Mr. Penistone ..... Norman Harle
(By permission of Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton.)
Peter Winscombe .. Lawrence Anderson
(By permission of Leon M. Lion.)
Dickie Cleeve ..... Garry Marsh
Fratton ..... Stella Rho
Lady Pamela Farries .... Mary Merrall
Leonard Heriot, K.C. .... Ben Webster
Amy ..... Muriel Lecornu
Judith Brecon ..... Helen Morris

Act I.—Sitting-room of Cleeve House at Mickelbourne.

Act II.—The Same (three days later).

Act III.—The Hall Lounge of Mrs. Brecon's Cottage in Mickelbourne Woods, the next afternoon.

A Play Full of Playthings.

That diligent dramatist and ex-sea warrior, Arthur Rosebery, has just completed a new domestic drama which he calls "Playthings." It will treat of several human "toys" at different ages, and will be produced next autumn. About the same time there will be a touring revival of the same author's two stirring naval dramas, respectively entitled "The Silent Watch" and "For Sweethearts and Wives."

Some Scripturally Named Dramas.

There seems to be a habit arising to give certain plays Biblical titles. Robert McLaughlin, who wrote "Decameron Nights" (adapted by Boyle Lawrence) has two such dramas. One is called "The Pearl of Great Price," the other "The Eternal Magdalene." And now Miss Dora Gray (Mrs. Eugene C. Stafford) has arisen with a new play of her own, which she thought of calling "Great Possessions." This lady—who will make her stage reappearance in this drama—may, however, give it another and more "secular" name.

"The Borderer."

Mr. Fred Terry completes his present tour of "The Scarlet Pimpernel" next month, when he will take a brief rest, prior to going on tour in August with his new romantic play, "The Borderer," which he produced at Bristol last autumn.

Pinero Pending.

Sir Arthur Pinero's wonderful play (his "masterpiece," as many think) "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" is to be revived at the Playhouse at the end of the long run of "The Sign on the Door." Miss Gladys Cooper will impersonate Paula Tanqueray, Dennis Eadie will be the Tanqueray, Ernest Thesiger the Sir George Orneyd, Miss Fay Davis Mrs. Cortelyon, Miss Mollie Kerr Ellean (Tanqueray's daughter by the first Mrs. T.), and Gilbert Hare Cayley Drummle. It is not generally known that Sir Arthur Pinero first intended this powerful play for Hare père.

And a Du Maurier Drama Due.

Another important revival approaching is that of Paul Potter's dramatisation of George du Maurier's famous romance "Trilby." This will be presented by Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry at the end of the run of J. Bernard Fagan's powerful play "The Wheel" at the Apollo. The renowned young actress will, of course, resume the name-part, and Lyn Harding has just been engaged for Svengali.

"A Prodigal Daughter."

Following is the cast of "A Prodigal Daughter," the play in three acts by H. A. Gurney, to be presented by the Playwrights' Theatre Company, by arrangement with Mr. Donald Calthrop, at the Aldwych Theatre to-night:—

Trevor ..... Henry Ford
Mrs. Kennedy ..... Ruth Maitland
Mr. Kennedy .... Lauderdale Maitland
Maid ..... Phyllis Stuckey
Arthur Parker ..... Garry Marsh
Doris Kennedy ..... Mary Merrall
Ralph Grantham .... Dennis Wyndham
Mr. Green ..... J. Leslie Frith
Mrs. Green ..... Helena Millais
Chauffeur ..... Eugene Leahy
Henry ..... Jack Bligh
Carrie ..... Irene Hentschel

The action passes in Mrs. Kennedy's drawing-room, the parlour of a country inn, and Ralph Grantham's flat. Time: The present.

New Play at the Comedy.

Mr. J. E. Vedrenne will reopen the Comedy Theatre on Tuesday evening, June 6, with a comedy, in three acts and seven scenes, by Fryn Tennyson Jesse, entitled "Quarantine." The first act passes in the s.s. "Angostura," four days out from Avonmouth; the second in a bungalow on Pigeon Island, the quarantine station off Esmeralda; and the third on the verandah of an Esmeralda hotel. Esmeralda is described by the author as "an island somewhere between the Azores and the Bahamas . . . sub-tropical . . . originally colonised by the Spanish, now nominally English, but in reality thoroughly American."

"The Dover Road."

Mr. A. A. Milne's new three-act comedy, under this title, will be produced by Mr. Frederick Harrison at the Haymarket Theatre on Wednesday evening, June 7. Leading parts will be played by well-known artists, including Mr. Henry Ainley and Mr. Allan Aynesworth, Miss Athene Seyler, Miss Nancy Atkin, Mr. John Deverell, and Mr. Nicholas Hannen.

The Next Kingsway Show.

"The Era" learns that when "Other People's Worries" comes off at the Kingsway Theatre (and there is no immediate prospect of its doing so), Benrimo will produce the "Spanish Lovers," a big Paris success, by a Spanish author. In it, Mr. Ivor Novello and Miss Doris Lloyd will take part.

COVENT GARDEN OPERA SEASON.

"THE MASTERSINGERS."

"The Mastersingers" is one of those operas that should be seen and heard by every man, for it is a masterpiece of literary conception, at once so wholesome, romantic and humorous that it becomes something in the nature of a liberal education in good citizenship. The schoolboy who heard it and wanted to become a cobbler, so that he would sing, and be a fine man like Hans Sachs, entered truly into this remarkable musical play so admirably performed on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at Covent Garden. Of all the characters none had a finer freedom of action or a more satisfactorily telling delivery than that fine singer, Mr. Robert Radford, of whom we have a right to be proud as an exponent of operatic art. His impersonation of Veit Pogner was a realisation worthy of the grand season. Mr. Andrew Shanks, too, in the character of Hans Sachs, sang and acted well throughout his long periods on the stage, and a more delightful Eva than Miss Miriam Licette would be difficult to imagine, her acting and vocalisation being on a very high level. Mr. Arthur Jordan, as Walther Von Stolzing, sang well, and though possibly a little inclined to pose, carried out the rôle with its many exacting demands, excelling in the famous "Prize Song" by reason of admirable vocal freedom. This added contrast to the Sixtus Beckmesser, the pragmatic, moral weakling, humorously conceived by Mr. Sydney Russell, whose business was well done.

As David, Mr. Tudor Davies sang clearly and acted the maturing apprentice creditably, a compliment applicable to the long cast, including Mr. Frederick Collier, Ernest Howie, Nathan Shacknoff, Frederick Rickitt, Joseph Heaps, Duncan McArthur, Albert Chapman, Morris Rubin, and Arthur Keen. The night watchman of Mr. Philip Bertram was a finely sonorous performance. His acting was very good in the little he had to do.

Magdalene, well portrayed by Miss Edith Clegg, the able work of Mr. Aylmer Buesst at the conductor's desk, and the leader of the orchestra, Mr. Bernard Reillie, must be noted, together with the especially admirable perspective staging of the last scene.

"AIDA."

It says much for the resources of the British National Opera Company that they should have mounted Aida with such success on Wednesday, for in truth, Verdi's spectacular work makes huge demands upon every department of the operatic stage. But if the task is difficult so the reward is great, and it cannot be denied that Wednesday's glittering gate of Thebes and moonlit bank of the Nile took a great hold of the imagination and vastly pleased the crowded auditorium. Backing up this scenic splendour were a chorus which sang with splendid volume of tone, a ballet which was at least adequate, not forgetting the première danseuse, Miss Penelope Spencer, and a set of principals who did full justice to their respective rôles. Particularly was this true in the case of Miss Edna Thornton, powerful-voiced and excellent of enunciation, as the jealous Amneris. At the close of her big scene in the last act she had to respond to six curtain calls. For the rest, Mr. Frank Mullings made a fine, robust Radames, Miss Agnes Nicholls sang sympathetically as Aida, Mr. William Anderson added great dignity to the utterances of the King, Mr. Norman Allen was a resonant and clear Ramphis, and Mr. Robert Parker sang and acted with great vim as the dusky potentate Amonasro. Mr. Percy Pitt, who conducted, deserves a deal of praise for his share in the general success.

"MAGIC FLUTE."

It is good to hear Mozart's "Magic Flute" again. Certainly the British National Opera Company put their whole heart and soul into it on Thursday, and gave a very satisfying production, not excepting the striking new stage settings provided by Mr. Oliver P. Bernard, M.C., O.B.E. Curtains play an important part in these new sets, and the exterior of the Temple justified Tamino's remarks as to the artistry of its inhabitants. Vocally the great success of the evening was Miss Sarah Fischer. Her voice is of beautiful quality, her movements free from affectation, and her personality charming. She sang Pamina as if she enjoyed it—which, no doubt, she did—and the audience were in the same fortunate position. Mr. Robert Radford was resonant and dignified as Sarasato, Mr. Walter Hyde smooth and suave of voice as the hero, Tamino, and Mr. Raymond Ellis vastly diverting as the quaint Papageno. Furthermore, Miss Gertrude Johnson gave a good account of herself as the Queen of Night, attacking the difficult passages with commendable skill, and Miss Gertrude Boxall made the most of her opportunities as Papagena. A word also for the three ladies neatly sung by Mesdames Eda Bennis, May Blyth and Evelyn Arden. Mr. Eugene Goossens conducted, and shared in the hearty reception at the end.

"RHINEGOLD."

The staging alone in Wagner's mythology is always one of the great tests, for which Covent Garden stage craft may be generally regarded as uniquely adequate. The very proportions of the stage help in this respect, and the superb orchestra at this prsent season by the British National Opera, again, gives a sense of adequacy very helpful to the singers and the audience. There was an all-round excellent standard in Monday's performance that promises well for the Wagner nights of this artistic venture. Mr. Albert Coates, as conductor, obtained some remarkably fine atmosphere from the orchestra, and kept the singers and the work well together. Vocally, all the singers were generally more melodious than in the German season, and the Rhine Maidens—Mesdames Gertrude Johnson, May Blyth, and Edith Furmedge—were a very good vocal trio as well as graceful in their aquatic deportment.

Mr. Clarence Whitehill as Wotan was sonorous and commanding, similar compliments being due to Mr. William Michael as Alberich, Mr. Sydney Russell as Mime, Mr. Frederick Collier as Dormer, with two magnificent giants in Mr. Robert Radford and Mr. Norman Allin, who were well contrasted vocally and in bearing, and were yet of a kin. Froh, sung by Mr. Tudor Davies, was effective, and Mr. Walter Hyde made an admirable Loge, with Mesdames Edna Thornton, Anna Lindsey and Phyllis Archibald as Fricka, Freia and Erda respectively all vocal and satisfactory in a high degree.

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE.

Portraits of Theatrical Celebrities — Testing Trick Turns — Greenwich Frivolities — Two New Musical Numbers — Good Business in the Provinces.

It is not often that exhibitions of paintings are of any direct interest to our profession, but yesterday there opened at Gieve's Gallery, in Old Bond Street (to which admission is free), an exhibition of theatrical and other portraits which is well worth a visit from every pro who happens to be in town. They are the work of Webster Murray, a young Canadian artist, whose work is very well known to readers of "The Tatler," "Eve," etc. His portrait work is mainly in crayon with just a wash of colour. Some of his 18th century Watteauesque costume studies have an elusive delicacy which reminds one at times of the late Claude Shepperson's work. His portraits at Gieve's include, among many others, Jack Hulbert, Trini, Madame Albani, Dorothy Dickson, Flora le Breton (as Rosemary, in "The Glorious Adventure"), Willy Clarkson, Alice Delysia, Percy Heming (as Marcel, in "La Boheme"), Addie Rabino (of the London Balalaika Orchestra), Matheson Lang, C. B. Cochran, Kid Lewis, Evelyn Laye (as Nell Gwynne), Mai Bacon, and Sir Landon Ronald.

* * *

I have known Webster Murray for some years, and have watched his progress pretty closely. I first introduced his work to Cochran's notice, and C. B. C. commissioned Webster Murray to do a poster for "Cherry," the coster play, which had such a short run at the Apollo. The poster was finished a few days before the ill-fated play also finished!

About the same time, Cochran, who has a most interesting art collection, bought a clever sporting picture by this artist called "The Count." When "Fun of the Fayre" was produced last autumn I took Webster Murray down to the Pavilion several times in order to make a large colour drawing of the old Venetian Carnival scene in that excellent show. The drawing appeared later in "The Tatler," and Cochran subsequently bought the original to add to his collection.

* * *

Apropos my testing of Charles Edmond's "Haunted-Violin" act at the Holborn Empire, to which I referred last week, I had a letter—giving no address!—from an old friend of mine who owes me a considerable sum of money. He compliments me on the thoroughness of my investigation, and says it makes excellent reading. (That's gratifying!) He quotes Eric Blore in "My Friend Woodbine," and says that I really ought to "go in for this sort of thing much more than I do"—meaning the independent investigation of trick and illusion turns. Yes, I think so, too. But he goes on to suggest that I shall publicly test one of the biggest illusions on the Halls, and shall write to P. T. Selbit offering to be the (this time male) victim of "Sawing through a Woman." In a burst of generosity my friend says that he will be at the back of the Hall in case of accidents to identify the remains and to give evidence at the inquest. So touched am I by this indication of his affection that I am tempted to make a new will, remitting his debt of 1s. 9d. and bequeathing him my last bottle of soda-water. But, on second thoughts, no! When I saw this turn up in the Midlands last year, the sawing through the lady's middle looked so horribly realistic, that I feel it my duty to bar all acts in which any considerable degree of mutilation of my anatomy is called for.

* * *

When, at the instance of William Morris, Lauder's manager, Charles Edmonds brought his clever turn over to this country he left behind him a great reputation in the States, extending over 15 years, as a "live" producer and a prolific composer. He has handled some big stuff over there, and produced the "Greenwich Frivolities" at Greenwich Village in 1920. His songs have a great public on the other side, and when I was chatting with him at his hotel I was interested to hear that he has just signed a contract with Keith Prowse, by which this wide-awake firm have got the exclusive publishing rights of all his stuff. They will shortly be bringing out his "My China Rose" and "I'm Always Dreaming of You." After listening to these two very catchy numbers, which I had the pleasure of hearing tried over, I saw a letter which Sophie Tucker recently sent to my friend, S. Van Lier, of Keith Prowse, describing the big hit she has been making with "My China Rose."

* * *

When one remembers the deplorable state to which the touring business as a whole has been reduced by high railway rates, the entertainment tax, and other economic causes, it is pleasant to hear of individual instances of good business. I was chatting with Nelson King, Frank Forbes-Robertson's general manager, at the Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, last week, and I must say that he seemed in excellent spirits. And that is not to be wondered at, for his record of business, both on first and on return visits, really did justify his optimism. I can quite believe that it is not a wholly unmixed blessing to bear a great theatrical surname; the theatre-going public seem unable to refrain from indulging in sometimes absurd comparisons; but the young bearer of this honoured name knows how to look after his own reputation. The box office receipts are, after all, the hard matter-of-fact criterion of public favour, and when I looked in I found a house of which any manager had a right to be proud.

PROSCENIUS.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

SPECIAL MEETING.

A special general meeting will be held at the Aldwych Theatre on Sunday next, at 7 p.m., when Miss Eva Moore will move the resolution having reference to the secretary, which appeared in last week's "Era."

Signing of Contracts.

Members are asked to note that it has long been the law that if an acceptance of a contract is posted before notice of revocation of the contract is received, and the posting of such acceptance can be proved that there is a binding contract between the parties. It will be wise, therefore, for all members, when accepting engagements through the post, to be sure to retain proof of such posting in case any dispute might afterwards arise.

A member submitted an idea for the cards of membership for a ready reckoner for fractions of salaries due to artists on extra matinées. This was placed before the Council, and it was felt that the idea could not be carried out.

Report Week Ending May 13, 1922.

Death levies due, 11.

Moneys recovered: — Previously, £899 8s. 4d.; this week, £20; total, £919 8s. 4d.

Death levy benefits:—Previously, £549 7s.

Number of New Members:—Previously, 393; this week, 9; total, 402.

Legal Cases:—Won, 16; lost, 2; dropped, 11; proceeding, 18; total, 47.

Arbitrations:—Won, 12; lost, 5; proceeding, 9; total, 26.

General.

1. Members offered an engagement on joint contract. Terms were arranged and contract forwarded to them for signature. This was duly signed and returned, but instead of receiving signed duplicate copy from the management a letter was received informing them that it had been found impossible to confirm the engagement, as other arrangements had been made. This letter was not received until after the despatch of the contract signed by the artist.

Case taken to court and judgment given in artist's favour, it being held by the judge that the posting of the contract was proved and the engagement therefore definitely established.

2. In this case judgment had been given in artist's favour, and an order was made for payment in instalments. Only one instalment was received, although the defendants were still touring their company. Steps were therefore taken, and the balance of the whole amount recovered by garnishee.

3. Artist engaged on contract stipulating 14 days' notice. Was informed during rehearsals that management might find it necessary to make changes later. After four weeks was asked to finish at once—the manager holding that his remark (quoted above) at rehearsals constituted formal notice. Claim for 14 days' salary put forward and upheld.

Note.—Claims cannot be accepted against managers concerning whom members have been warned. Full information can be obtained from headquarters as to the standing of any proprietor.

THEATRICAL GARDEN PARTY.

Fifty separate side-shows, sufficient parquet flooring for dancing to cover the floor space of Covent Garden Opera House three times over, and entertainments by four to five hundred of the most popular actors and actresses—these are but a few of the innumerable attractions arranged by the organisers of this year's Theatrical Garden Party in aid of The Actors' Orphanage, to be held at the Royal Hospital Grounds and Ranelagh Gardens, Chelsea, on June 23.

Five new "night" clubs are to be opened for this one day only. Of these, perhaps the most exciting will be the "Decameron Nights" Club, which is to be in charge of Mr. Arthur Collins and Miss Ellis Jeffreys, while another, "The Midnight Lounge," enjoys a distinctly intriguing name. The remaining three will be "Bunch's Night Club," "The Charlot Revel Club," and "The Grossmith Cabaret."

Sportsmen will find an entirely new kind of race meeting, with Mr. Leslie Henson acting as clerk of the course, judge, stewards, starter and general Pooh-Bah, while golfing, cricket and tennis enthusiasts will have their particular wants supplied in various parts of the grounds.

Housewives cannot afford to miss the entertaining series of lecturettes to be delivered by Mr. Huntley Wright on such subjects as "The Ideal Home," "Mending Father's Trousers," and "Dressmaking."

Wimbledon Theatre Attractions.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland has secured several further attractions for his present season at the Wimbledon Theatre, including Mr. Matheson Lang in a personal visit with "Blood and Sand," "The Sign on the Door," "Loyalties," a return visit of "Paddy the Next Best Thing," "Quality Street," "A Bill of Divorcement," "My Nieces," and "A Night Out." Next week "Mr. Garrick," including in the cast Gerald Lawrence, Ray Byford, and Miss Madge Compton, will be produced for the first time in London.

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PREMIERES OF THE WEEK.

"NUTS IN MAY."

At the Duke of York's.

Farce, in Three Acts, by H. Raymond, Victor Roger and Antony Mars, adapted by E. Lawrence Prentice, presented at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday, May 9.

Valentin Vervier.....Mr. John Deverell
Dubois ..... Mr. Dan Rolyat
Hercules Cholet ..... Mr. Arthur Burne
Major Martin ..... Mr. Clive Currie
Pierre ..... Mr. Charles Vane
Vicomte de Roche en l'Air
Mr. Geoffrey Saville
Pommier ..... Mr. Harold Clemence
Captain Bessier ... Mr. Louis Goodrich
Seageant de Ville ...Mr. Henry Holland
Claire Vervier ..... Miss Isabel Jeans
Lola ..... Miss Edie Graham
Eugenie ..... Miss Evelyn Kerry
Marcelle ..... Miss Audrey Cameron
Marie ..... Miss Ann Desmond
Seraphine ..... Miss Noel Stephens
Susette ...Miss Mollie Hartley Milburn

Although there is not much to be said in praise of this farce, here and there the germ of a good farcical idea was traceable. Valentin Vervier, a young barrister, has been peremptorily married to a charming girl from whom he shoo-ed away a cow, while still engaged to a tempestuous milliner named Lola. When he meets his jilted love by accident he forbears to tell her of his marriage and allows her to pass as his wife to his friend Captain Bessier, his major, and to all the other reservists of the 33rd Hussars, with whom he is doing his 28 days' service. Among these others is a comic plumber, a comic confectioner and a comic vicomte. The real Mme. Vervier arrives, and, finding another lady masquerading as Valentin's wife, disguises herself as a soldier and joins the reservists. No one suspects her, not even the comic plumber, with whom she is put to share a bedroom at the Chateau de Caux, with Vervier and Bessier next door and able to view the room through a convenient hole in the wall. The situation evaporates, and, back in the barrack-yard the next morning, Mme. Vervier, tired of trying to "pay her husband out," resumes her own delightful clothes, Valentin joyfully admits that she is his real wife, and Lola consoles herself with the farcical major.

A Loyal and Clever Cast.

Great was our admiration for the actors in this farce. Of an entirely different type, yet it is difficult to find two cleverer or more adroit comedians than Mr. John Deverell and Mr. Dan Rolyat. Both worked splendidly. Mr. John Deverell, as usual, got character into his part, and his familiar and welcome humour—the little titter, the air of mild surprise, his small complacencies—were always exactly in the right place and never overdone, so that they were a fresh delight every time they were brought out. Mr. Dan Rolyat's more boisterous humour was also refreshing, and he made the very most of his business with bucket, business with sword, business with bedclothes, and so on. Miss Isabel Jeans was wasted on the part of Claire Vervier, but took any chances that came her way. Miss Edie Graham, Miss Evelyn Kerry, Mr. Clive Currie and Mr. Louis Goodrich all did as well or better than their parts permitted.

The ladies were delightfully gowned and hatted.

From Monday night "Nuts in May" was preceded by Mr. Sewell Collins' "dramatic trifle," "Just Like a Woman." It is a bright little farcical episode which had the advantage of being played for all it was worth by Mr. Yorke Stephens in his original part of Frederick Van Rypen, the harassed husband, and Miss Dorothy Fane, who acted very attractively as the wife.

EVERYMAN THEATRE.

Another Revival of "The Pigeon."

Mr. Norman Macdermott gave us an idea of the company he is taking to Zurich when on Friday last he produced Mr. Galsworthy's fine play, "The Pigeon," which represents the eminent playwright at his best. That philosophic vagabond, Ferrand, is a real creation, and the central character of Welwyn, the pigeon who is such a mark for the rooks, is admirably drawn.

On the whole the Everyman production was a good one. The best performance was that of Mr. Milton Rosmer as the pigeon. It is a difficult part, for he is on the stage practically the whole time, and often has little or nothing to say. His performance throughout was sympathetic and appealing both in word and gesture.

Mr. Harold Scott's Ferrand was not so good, as he consistently underplayed the part. Mr. H. O. Nicholson's Jimson was a gem, and it is difficult to imagine the part being better played. It was a perfect presentation of the old-time London cabby. Mrs. Megan was excellently acted by Miss Clare Harris. Her playing was full of suggestiveness, and points barely indicated by the lines were very cleverly brought out.

That sound actor, Mr. Douglas Jeffries, scored as the vicar, and the other two reformers, Professor Calway and Sir Thomas Hoxton, were cleverly individualised by Mr. Walter Herbage and Mr. Aubrey Mather. Miss Dodie Smith was not well cast as Ann. Mr. Geo. G. Carr made a satisfactory but brief appearance as Megan, and the Chief Humble Man was played by Mr. William Mollison.

The "Old Vic." of the Provinces.

At the interesting dinner recently given by the Lyceum Club to "feature" the growth of community drama, keen sympathy was shown with the work and present difficulties of the "Old Vic.," and Mr. St. John Ervine, speaking in support of it, flashed a new light on the possibilities of community playing, when he pointed out that the Arts League of Service Dramatic Company is doing in the countryside just what the "Old Vic." is doing in London. It is creating in the same way an audience for really good drama. With the "Old Vic." working in London and the Arts League of Service in the rest of the country, a good step has been taken on the road to a National Theatre.

"THE JOYOUS ADVENTURE OF ARISTIDE PUJO."

At the Court.

Comedietta, by W. J. Locke, Produced at the Court Theatre, on Monday, May 15.

Aristide Pujol .....Mr. Leon M. Lion
Mr. Smith .....Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn
Monsieur Poiron .....M. Hector Abbas
The Hon. Harry Ralston
Mr. Lawrence Anderson
Herr Sneider ..... Mr. Alec Snowden
Miss Christabel Smith
Miss Joyce Burnett
Maid ..... Miss Adela Frances

An entertaining addition to the programme at the Court has been made in Mr. W. J. Locke's play in one act, "The Joyous Adventure of Aristide Pujol." Our hero finds himself in a gentleman's house in London, where he has been landed through the chauffeur mistaking him for a Monsieur Poiron. The owner of the house is of a mercenary, not to say fraudulent, character, and is arranging to sell for £3,000 to his prospective son-in-law a picture which has cost him just £8. M. Poiron is to pose as a French baron from whose chateau in France the picture has been brought.

Pujol keeps up the deception until the arrival of the real Poiron, when he is ordered from the house, but by this time Pujol knows too much about the shady transaction, and insists on making his own terms, even to the extent of presenting the painting free to the future bridegroom, and getting an invitation to make a six-weeks' stay at the house.

The chief part is played by Mr. Leon M. Lion, who presents a superb character study of the volatile and resourceful Frenchman. Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn is a hearty and genial master of the house, and Mr. Lawrence Anderson and Miss Joyce Burnett make a charming pair of lovers.

"Windows," which is being presented by Mr. Leon M. Lion and Mr. J. T. Grein, is continuing to prove highly enjoyable. Mr. Herbert Marshall is the amiable "free lance," Miss Irene Rooke as the mother, Miss Mary Odette as Faith Bly, Mr. Ernest Thesiger as the loquacious window cleaner, and Miss Clare Greet as the cook, supplying performances the excellence of which could not be surpassed.

INTERLUDE PLAYERS.

"Mrs. Dane's Defence."

The performance of Henry Arthur Jones's fine comedy, "Mrs. Dane's Defence," at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, last Sunday evening—which, by the way, was the society's last revival; in future it will only produce new plays—was made remarkable by some extremely good acting. Miss Muriel Minty played the very difficult and trying part of Mrs. Dane, and played it superbly well. She has a fine presence and a fascinating personality. Mr. Clive Currie's Sir Daniel Carteret we have praised highly on previous occasions. The third portrayal that calls for particular praise was that of Mr. Campbell Fletcher as the private detective, Fendick. Mr. Fletcher's appearance and manner were exactly correct. Here and there, parts were not too well cast, but good work was done by Miss Rosalie Notrelle as Lady Eastney, Miss Emmie Arthur Williams as Janet Colquhoun, and Mr. Cecil Trouncer as Lionel Carteret.

"Mrs. Dane's Defence" was preceded by an amusing new one-act farce, by Mr. J. Smith-Wright, entitled "Dear John."

John Lovibond .....Mr. Evan Thomas
John Fulcher .....Mr. J. Smith-Wright
Audrey Shipton ...Miss Audrie Haynes
Leonora Larking
Miss Elizabeth Dudley

This was mainly remarkable in that it gave an excellent opportunity to that very delightful actor, Mr. Evan Thomas, to play in extremely entertaining fashion as a decidedly nervous young gentleman endeavouring to break off his engagement with a supposedly penniless young spinster in order to marry a wealthy widow. He eventually meets with the treatment his reprehensible conduct deserves, inasmuch as he loses both ladies, although at the very cleverly arranged "curtain," he is in pursuit of a third. The sketch is brightly written, and would undoubtedly prove a very welcome item in any variety programme.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION AND THE EQUITY.

James K. Hackett's Plea for Union.

THE LAW AND THE STAGE.

Mr. J. Fisher White presided at the fourth open meeting in support of the A.A. closed shop campaign, held at the Alhambra Theatre on Sunday night, when the principal speakers were Mr. Patrick Hastings, K.C., and Mr. James K. Hackett, the famous American actor.

Interest in the campaign, judged by the attendance, is well maintained. In fact, the attendance was larger than usual, and a number of questions were dealt with by Mr. Hackett.

Mr. Lugg, on rising to speak, met with a rousing reception and a shout of "Keep your pecker up"—a reference to next Sunday's meeting, when the question of the Secretary's politics is to come under discussion.

In opening the meeting, Mr. Fisher White recalled what had been done during the campaign. The matter had been pretty fully discussed, and they had talked about a trade guild, which would include a closed shop; now they had with them two eminent gentlemen to address them. Mr. Patrick Hastings, K.C., was a member of one of the closest shops in the whole range of professional activity.

The Bar paid strict attention not only to the standard but to the way the members behaved when they were admitted, and that was something which the A.A. wanted. Mr. Hastings showed, by giving up his Sunday, a love of the drama and of the theatre. That might be due to the fact that a successful barrister needed a good deal of dramatic ability.

Mr. Patrick Hastings started by saying that he felt his task somewhat of a terrible ordeal for a mere unsophisticated, simple lawyer. (Laughter.)

The Oldest Trade Union.

The English Bar was perhaps the oldest trade union in the world. They had an absolutely closed shop. But, of course, they did not admit that they were a trade union. (Laughter.) He was sure that most of the barristers at the top of the profession were, well—old seasoned conservatives, and would not like to be told that they were members of a trade union. But they were, and no doubt in their day they were very glad of it. Not only were they a closed shop, but they had a minimum wage.

Those who said that there was no room for a trade union in the theatrical profession consisted mostly of people to whom the minimum wage was no longer a necessity. (Applause.) Some of them might even be interested in seeing that there was not a minimum wage. It was all very well to say that the profession was based upon art, but, after all, they had to live out of it. And a very large number, if there were no form of protection, very likely might starve in their art.

Many a score of members of the theatrical profession had starved in their art. Many in the years to come would thank God that there was a union of actors. (Applause.)

Mr. Hastings then dealt with some of the evils to which the profession was subject, principally that of the "buying" of parts, which was one of the scandals of the profession.

A Probation Period.

He could not see why they should not have a probation period, and it should not be impossible to say that there should not be a person acting on the English stage unless he was a member of the A.A. (Applause.) The profession should be limited to persons who have shown themselves fitted for the calling.

The Bar was nearer in its ideals, its practice, and its difficulties to the stage than it was to any other band in the country. Nobody wanted to minimise the art of the theatre, but they must remember they had to live out of it.

Those of them who were successful had no use for the A.A., but it was those who in the A.A. were really a self-sacrificing band helping their brothers at the bottom.

Concluding, Mr. Hastings said he believed that unions of people, once it be remembered, as it should be, that a union was not a weapon of offence—it was intended to hurt nobody—were excellent things. The one legitimate object was a banding together to protect those members of the same body who otherwise would be treated with insufferable hardships, and very often faced with terrible perils. The very motive of the A.A. was by increasing the powers of resistance for those who were beginning at the very bottom, by compelling some sort of control, or in the terrors they were faced with. If the Association did only one hundredth part of which it set out to do, then it would have done one of the greatest services which any body of people of any Association had ever achieved. (Applause.)

Greetings From the States.

Mr. James Hackett, who was given an enthusiastic reception, read a cable he had received only the previous evening. It was:—

Cordial greetings to Actors' Association. We are anxious for an alliance with them of the closest nature.—Frank Gilmore.

Mr. Hackett, who is a member of the Equity Association, as well as the Managers' Association, made it clear that he was not speaking in any official capacity.

The Actors' Equity, he said, was a necessity. At first, when it was suggested that they should join in the American Federation of Labour, a great many of his friends declined to ally themselves with the Labour men. But actors were all hard-working men, and the alliance with the Labour Federation proved to be a wise thing, because, without them the Equity would not have won its fight, and now it was a power—the leading power—in the theatrical world. The Equity had never yet abused its power. The men at its head were high-minded.

Federation.

Referring to federation, Mr. Hackett remarked, "Unity is strength," and if it be not abused, it was a wonderful thing to have.

He firmly believed that a working Association—outside their national Associations—between the A.A. and the Equity would be of great assistance. How it could be brought about he could not suggest, and that it should be worked out he was convinced.

Mr. Fisher White, in throwing the meeting open for discussion, said these meetings had shown the necessity for the profession to be completely organised. (Applause.)

He pointed out that a very high percentage of American actors and actresses were members of the Equity. As they knew, the Equity had said that their members would not act with English actors who did not belong to the A.A. (Applause.) They ought to be able to say the same thing in favour of American actors when they came to this country. And that was another reason why they should try to bring about the A.A. shop. Until they had some sort of a closed shop, they could not reciprocate the advantages which the other English-speaking Actors' Associations gave them.

In the discussion comment was made on the abstinence of established artists from that meeting, and one member suggested that they were afraid of the federation, and afraid of letting the provincial actor into the West End at all.

West End and Provinces.

And then came Mr. Lugg. When the cheers and applause had ceased he said that he was going to say a lot of things they would not like, so they had better reserve there applause. He deprecated the suggested antagonism between the West End actor and the provincial actor. Take your minds back to the time when we were endeavouring to form a trade union, said Mr. Lugg. One man, for whom he had the deepest reverence, Sidney Valentine, was a West End actor. He was antagonistic to the trade union, but he was open to conviction. And when he was convinced he threw his whole efforts—in fact, he gave his life—into the endeavour to establish the Actors' Trade Union.

Most of the committee who worked equally with Mr. Valentine to make the association a trade union were West End actors. It was all very well for people who might have, to some extent, a legitimate complaint, to throw the blame on one side of the profession. He was not going to take the part of the West End actor more than the provincial. He said that the West End actor had not done his duty by the Actors' Association, but he was going to say equally that neither had the provincial actor. It was perfectly simple to bandy words, but whatever faults there might be they were not peculiar to the West End actor any more than the provincial. The actors and actresses whether West End or provincial, were equally guilty if they did not support the Association.

Dramatic Revival.

After referring to the need for organisation, Mr. Lugg said he could foresee one of the greatest dramatic and theatrical revivals coming for the United States in the near future, because there they had had sufficient love of their calling to realise the dignity of their profession.

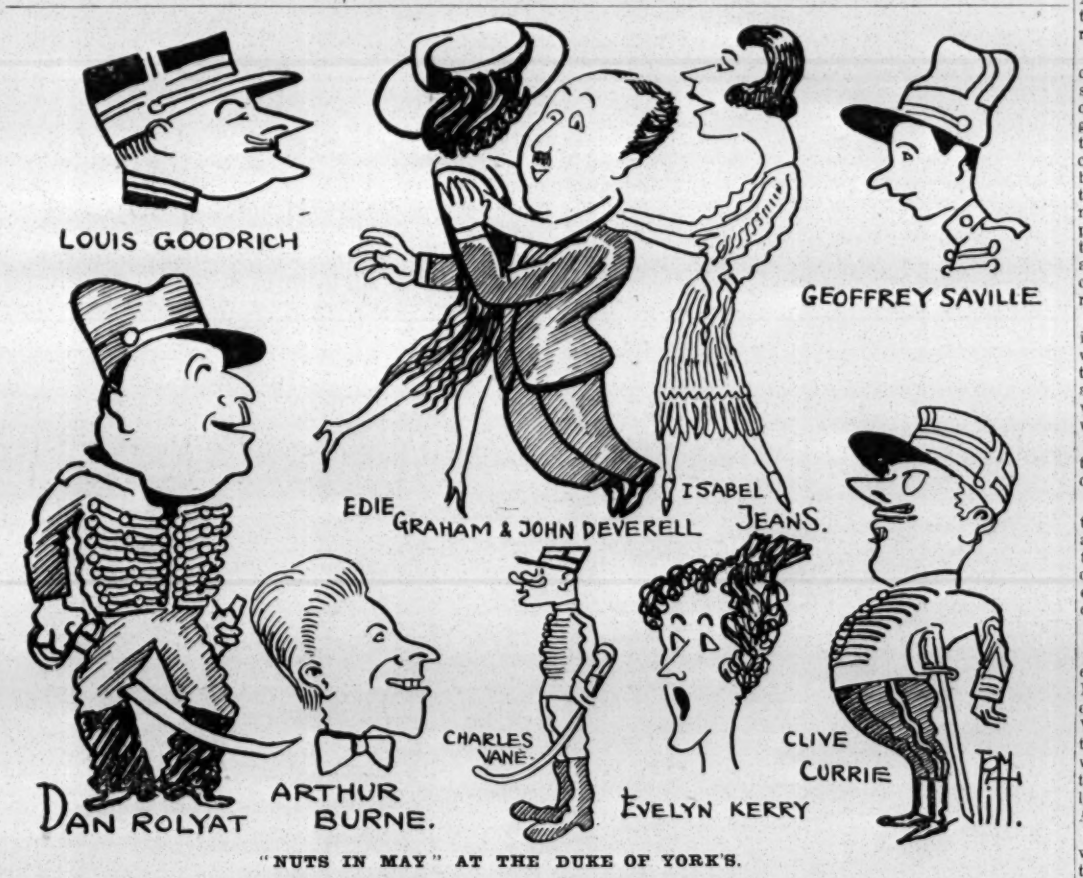
Mr. Lugg then reviewed the three means by which the Actors' Association shop can be achieved; the third of which it is suggested is by federation with the other unions in the industry. If they could do it by the other two means let them do it. If both of those methods failed they were driven back upon federation. If the actors remained outside the Association, if the managers refused co-operation and alliance, then there was no alternative between federation and the collapse of the Actors' Association (applause).

Next Sunday's Meeting.

After thanking Mr. Hackett and Mr. Hastings for their attendance and addresses Mr. Lugg concluded with the following reference to next Sunday's meeting.

I want to say this quite clearly. I am deeply grateful to the people who have called this meeting. If they will attend in person, accuse me of whatever they have to accuse me and give me the fullest opportunity of defending my position, I shall be glad (applause). It is, in my opinion, an extremely important thing and personally I have nothing but gratitude for those who have called the meeting because it is time that the subterranean means that have been taken to undermine my position should be brought clearly to the surface. I have no fear of any criticism which may be levelled against me. There is nothing that can be brought against me that I cannot answer, and this meeting will serve the purpose, I hope once and for all, of getting for this Association and for the secretary, whether myself or anybody else, the support which is due to the person whom this Association places in the position of secretary (applause). One of the reasons for the weakness of the Association is that those who could guide us the way we should go do not take as great an interest in us as is due to the only movement of the present time which is striving for the betterment of the theatre in this country (loud applause).

The meeting closed with thanks to the proprietors of the theatre.



"NUTS IN MAY" AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S.

THE DEPUTATION TO THE CHANCELLOR.

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED.

QUESTION TO BE FURTHER DISCUSSED.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE OFFICIALS CALLED IN.

(SPECIAL TO "THE ERA.")

The long-awaited deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer was received on Thursday last, and the position at the moment may be said to be that the matter is still in abeyance.

The proceedings were not open to the Press, and the various brief accounts which have been published so far are conflicting and misleading.

We are able to inform our readers, however, as to the real position. The Chancellor was more sympathetic than has generally been reported, and, as matters stand at present, representatives of the Entertainment Tax Joint Abolition Committee have been asked by Sir Robert Horne to discuss the whole position again with some of the officials of the Customs and Excise Department. The meeting between the two bodies will take place some time this week, and a report, prepared by the Customs and Excise representatives, will be submitted to the Chancellor of the Exchequer at the earliest possible moment.

Whatever alterations (if any) are suggested will be discussed in the House of Commons on the Committee Stage of the Finance Bill shortly after Whitsuntide.

THE DEPUTATION.

Points put before the Chancellor.

The interests represented at the Deputation were the Entertainments Protection Association, the Theatrical Managers' Association, the Provincial Entertainments' Proprietors' and Managers' Association, the Society of West End Theatre Managers, the Actors' Association, the Association of Touring Managers, the Musicians' Union, the National Association of Theatrical Employees, the Variety Artistes' Federation, The Cinema Proprietors' and Managers' Association of Lancashire, Cheshire, and the Isle of Man.

The deputation included Mr. Walter Payne and Mr. R. M. Dix (Entertainment Protection Association), Sir Alfred Butt, and Mr. J. E. Vedrenne (Society of West End Theatre Managers), Mr. Percy A. Broadhead and Mr. P. Percival (Provincial Entertainment Proprietors' and Managers' Association), Mr. Selby and Mr. H. W. Rowland (Theatrical Managers' Association), Mr. I. Wilkinson and Mr. W. H. Huick (Cinema Proprietors' and Managers' Association, Lancashire, Cheshire, &c.), and Mr. J. B. Williams (Musicians' Union).

Mr. Walter Payne put the case generally, as Chairman, and he was followed by Sir Alfred Butt on behalf of the West End places of amusement. Mr. Percy Broadhead represented the provincial interests, while the case for the Trades' Unions was voiced by Mr. William Johnson, of the N.A.T.E., and by Mr. J. B. Williams, of the Musicians' Union, who supported the resolution of the Trades' Union Congress.

The deputation pointed out to the Chancellor the injustice of the tax, which, it was stated, had nothing comparable in any other industries as a war tax. Their greatest concern was how long many of the places of entertainment which were collecting the tax for the Treasury would be able to keep open in view of the losses they had sustained within the last twelve months. They were anxious to reduce the prices of admission to the public in order to attract larger numbers to the theatres and music halls, and they asked the Chancellor to help them to attain that end by reducing the tax.

Figures were presented showing the large increases in items of expenditure over which the industry had practically no control, such as lighting, rates, orchestra, staff, advertising, and income tax, all of which were gravely menacing the industry as a whole.

The increases in expenditure were more than double the increases in receipts when compared with 1913, the last pre-war year.

In asking the Chancellor to help them, the deputation also explained they were also asking him to help himself, because the extent to which he got the tax out of the entertainment industry must depend entirely upon the extent to which the industry was able to carry on.

The Chancellor's Position.

Sir Robert Horne listened sympathetically to the views put forward by the deputation. He expressed himself as being very much impressed by the fact that the estimated amount from the tax might be very much diminished by the possibility of places either closing down or doing very bad business if there was no revision of the tax, and also by the fact that if they closed down he would lose substantial sums of money in what was called imperial taxation—income tax on property and salaries, etc.

He pointed out the great difficulties he had at the present time to make the national accounts balance, and stated that he would look further into the suggestions which had been made for revision, on the assumption that the amounts he would receive in Entertainment Tax or Imperial Taxes would not fall below his estimates.

He then announced his intention of asking the Customs and Excise Department to meet representatives of the deputation to discuss the whole matter further.

Mammoth Protest.

Meanwhile the Central Council of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, representing some 3,000 cinema theatre proprietors, resolved at their last meeting to use every available means at their disposal for the furtherance of their campaign for the abolition or readjustment of the tax on a fair basis.

In accordance with this resolution the Cinema Tax Abolition Committee decided forthwith to use the screens, theatre hoardings and newspaper space which has been placed at their disposal by the whole of their members in every city, town, and village in the United Kingdom, mainly for the purpose of pointing out the inequality of the incidence of the Entertainments Tax whereby the cinema theatre proprietor has to pay 40 per cent. on the working man's 5d. seat in comparison with 11¼ per cent. paid by the West End theatres on the rich man's box or stall.

Steps have been taken for the securing of a mammoth petition to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to be signed by at least 10,000,000 cinema patrons, and already between 300 and 400 mass meetings have been arranged to be held in the principal theatres in all parts of the country. More than eighty members of Parliament and other prominent individuals have promised to speak at these meetings.

"Our people are up in arms against the tax," said Captain Barber yesterday, "and we are now placing the matter entirely into the hands of the people upon whom the incidence of the tax falls. And we know what their verdict will be. The Chancellor of the Exchequer cannot afford to ignore the public much longer. We shall not stop our crusade against the tax until the Chancellor gives in."

FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

ABERDEEN.

H.M. THEATRE.—P., The Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr H. Adair Nelson; M. D., Mr. Joseph D. Rodgers.—Under the direction of Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd., "The Eye-Opener," circus revue.

ACCRINGTON.

NEW HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Donald O. Clark; Mus. D., Mr. Fred H. Jackson.—Dick Henderson, the Yorkshire comedian, is the premier attraction here, Ford and Lewis, speciality artistes, are also prominent. Phelps is an amusing ventriloquist. Laleski, the golden spider, assisted by Mdlle. Estelle, provide a smart speciality act. Morley and Partner are clever entertainers. Dal Richards, tenor vocalist, wins great applause, and The Viona Trio, classical and syncopated banjoists, are well received.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr Cyril Revill; B. M. Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Wyn Weaver and London company is here for one week with the funniest comedy on record, "Fair and Warmer." The company is efficient all round.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Jno. Boyle; Asst. A. M., Mr. Jesse Burslem.—An effective variety company is located here for the week, including Morny Cash, the Lancashire Lad; Norman Osbourne, the fireman ventriloquist; Luhaama Ladies, a frolic of pierrot; Barnes Brothers and Watson, comedy jugglers; The Ingemans, French clowns, novelty acrobats; Tina Paynola, the lady mimic; Harvard and Elise, novel comedy duo, in "The Lady Conductor"; Dolly Ross, the popular comedienne.

ATTERCLIFFE.

PALACE.—L., Messrs. Walker and Bennett; B. M. Mr. Arthur R. Walker; A. M., Mr. E. F. Gaunt; Mus. D., Mr. T. Graften Tottem.—This week's bill includes Alpho, in a ventriloquial burlesque, "Tinker the Tec"; Frank Cass, comedian and entertainer; Freda Santley and Bazel Moore, in comedy scena; Ivy, juvenile comedienne; and Jack, singing, patter, and dancing act; Dan H. Clark and Harry Brenton, in comedy scena, "The Skipper and His Mate"; and Gloriana, English concertina expert.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Arthus Carlton, J.P.; R. M., Mr. Shelford Walsh; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Hodges.—Rupert Lister and Cecile Barclay are remaining for a second week, staging for the first time locally the new farcical comedy, "The Man Who Stayed in Bed."

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce.—Bruce Green, the well-known "dame" comedian, heads the bill here; Mark Daly, in his character act, "Seasoning"; Mabel Costello, chrus comedienne; Larsla, the clever droll; Peggy Lynne and Enid Hamilton, in humour and harmony; and Dr. Fu Tong, the Chiese mystery man.

BELFAST.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainment, Mr. D. J. Clarke; R. M., Mr. George Dobler; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Robb Wilton, the well-known comedian, who appears in his latest success, "The Fire Chief," in which he is assisted by Florence Palmer, Frank Varney, and Teddie Butt, in comedy act, are paying a welcome return visit. Peggy and Lena Chisholm appear in their dainty vocal and musical act; and Mr. Scott Saunders makes his usual big hit at this theatre. Also billed are Phil and Phlora, in a dancing burlesque; Jaffa, comedy conjurer; Les Bon-Bons, in smart musical act; and Audrey Deane, in refined vocal interludes.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. W. Gibson Bradley.—Vaudeville here by the clever illusionist Mr. Vernon Cellsus, who presents "An Act Beautiful," in two scenes.

BILSTON.

ROYAL AND HIPPODROME. — P., Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. Arthur Holland.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company is presenting "Lady Audley's Secret" and "Hearts and Homes" for their fifth week attraction.

BIRKENHEAD.

ARGYLE THEATRE.—S. P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. H. O'Neill; Mus. D., Mr. J. Whitelock.—Prominent turns in an excellent company comprise Albert Whelan, Barrett and Knowles, Sammy Shields, and Frank E. Franks, who, together with the Heywoods, Vera Hinde, Gordon Bros., Anita Hayes, and Brown's Royal Bioscope furnish an admirable entertainment.

HIPPODROME.—S. P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. Chas. Eastwood; Mus. D., Mr. J. Whitelock.—Hayman and York present the amusing revue "Come on, Steve" with great success. Scott and Whaley, the popular comedian, figure largely in the cast.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Stanley Pope; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Taylor.—The twice-nightly summer season. Louis Calvert and Andrew Melville's company in "Daddalums," with Mr. Edward Irvin as Wallace Craigie.

PRINCE'S.—P., Exors. of Mr. E. H. Page; R. M., Mr. Albert Hargreaves; Mus. D., Mr. H. Archibald.—Ruby Kimberley and Jack Tully's company in "One Night of Folly."

PALACE.—P., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit; R. M., Mr Arthur Burton; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bartle.—Capital varieties are provided by Winston's Water Lions; Susie Marney, comedienne; Frank Melvin, comedian; Ivy de Verne, "The Wee Queen of Comedy"; Doris Gaskell, soprano; The Deguchi Troupe of Japanese Entertainers; and the Henry J. Corner musical ensemble, "Symphonia."

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Greenhalgh.—Bromley Challoner and his company are presenting "When Knights are Bold," with Enid Cooper as Lady Rowena.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. T. Hopcutt; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Southworth.—The Scottish Players in the comedy of "Hunky Dory," the author, Macdonald Watson, in the leading part.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Jepson.—The principal item on the programme this week is Tom D. Newell in "East-End Episodes," assisted by Miss Gordon and Mr. Harold Dayne; White, Black and Useless, in "The New Blacksmith"; Bel Air Trio, the Elliotts, &c.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; R. M., Mr. Chas. H. Johnston; Mus. D., Mr. G. H. Atkinson.—An excellent all-round entertainment includes St. Just and Higgins, Bichette, Syd Walker, The Joannys, Meredith and Adnil, Herbert Lee, and Nina Martin.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — S. P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; S. L., Mme. Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Brown. — Hery Ainley pays a welcome visit in "Uncle Ned," the popular actor receiving excellent support from Miss Mary O'Farrell and Howard Rose.

BRADFORD.

PRINCE'S.—M. D., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. Frank Yearsley.—Mr. Julian Frank presents the entertaining play, "The Edge o' Beyond."

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. Philip A. Letson.—Harry Day's revue, "Rockets," with Ernest Sefton, Cyril Dunn, and Nellie Turner in the principal parts.

PALACE.—P., Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. Edward Charles.—A capital variety bill, containing Les Bastiens, Feloirs, John Luxton, Chas Fella, Harland and Rollinson, Orpheus and Thora.

BRIGHTON

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas Gulliver; G. M., Mr. W. H. Boardman; A. M., Mr. A. Coote Suggit; Mus. D., Mr. E. Oram.—Pattman and his organ, assisted by Minnie Rigley, Noni and Horace, Wilson Hallett, Marjorie Fulton, Ted Marcel, Arthur Ferris, and Rupert Ingalese.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. H. Lawson Lambert; Mus. D., Mr. Sommerlad.—Mr. Gerald Lawrence and company in "Mr Garrick."

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. J. W. Cordiner; Mus. D., Mr. F. W. Pickerd.—"Tiger Tiger."

WEST PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. A. W. Scholey; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Crapps.—"Polly with a Past."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. Andrew Melville; G. M., Mr. Leedham Bantock; A. M., Mr. J. Thomas; Mus. D., Mr Phillips Vierke.—"Monte Cristo."

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Jas. Macready Chute and Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; A. M., Mr. Geo. M. Chute; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. R. Chapman.—Matheson Lang's company in "Carnival." The Othello part is played by Mr. Geo. Skillan, and that of Simonetta by Miss Margot Drake, supported by a powerful cast.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bristol Theatre, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—A great attraction here is "The Very Idea," including Easten Pickering in his original part.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; M., Mr. S. Fortescue Harrison; A. M., Mr. J. W. Hort; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Heading the bill here is Peggy O'Neill, supported by James Dale and Co. in "Kippers and Kings"; other turns are Mutt and Jeff, comedians; Julian Rose, Hebrew comedian; Katrina and Joan, in dancing scena; Ethel Bull, soprano; Terry Wilson, light comedian; and The Mountfords, presenting a skilful gymnastic act.

EMPIRE.—P., Bristol Empire, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Day; M., Mr. Coram Smart; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. A. Main.—"The Eleventh Commandment" is being presented here by an exceptionally strong company, headed by Miss Viola Tree.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA.—P., Victoria Opera House, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. A. Buckstone.—The Denville Stock Company present "The Black Sheep of the Family."

EMPIRE.—P., Victoria Opera House, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. A. Buckstone.—Gar Kiddie's musical burlesque, entitled "It."

PALACE.—P., Burnley Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Alan Williams.—Les Nosselas, a Parisian novelty; Les Tumilets, the human tops; Daisy Wood, comedienne; V. M. Gaston, musical entertainment; Harry Carlton, ventriloquist; Cliff Harcourt, singer of songs.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Exors. of H. G. Dudley Bennett (deceased); Licensee and Bus. Executrix, Mrs H. G. Dudley Bennett; A. M., Mr Ernest A. Rowe.—Miss Daisy Squelch presents the comedy revue, "The Romany Maid."

ANGLESEY PALACE.—Sole L. and M., Mr. H. Smith.—Mr. Reginald Selleck presents his costume concert party, "Folly."

BUXTON.

HIPPODROME.—L., Buxton & High Peak Entertainments, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Geo. F. Foulston; Mus. D., Mr. Reg. Goddard.—A special variety turn this week is Miss Iris Jay in monologues, songs, and character sketches and pictures, &c.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. & G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings; Mus. D., Mr. G. F. Burgiss.—Mr. Louis Rihill presents "Pedlar's Pie."

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L., R. M., Mr. P. H. Adams; Mus. D., Mr. I. Gilby Briggs.—Star Attractions present Isobel Elsom, and London company in two playlets, supported by Russian Ballet.

CANNOCK.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. B. Kennedy; M., Mr. H. Elliman; Mus. D., Mr. A. Thompson.—Musical Comedies (1921) present the musical play entitled "Carmello."

CHATHAM.

EMPIRE.—P., Chatham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M., Mr. George Piercy.—A strong variety bill, with the favourite, Maidie Scott, at the top; George French, comedian; Van Dock, the Italian cartoonist; Miss Ellis Drake and Co. in playlet, "My Husband"; Winifred O'Connor, soprano; Fyne and Hurley, burlesque comedians; and the Fayre Four Sisters.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. C. L. & A. H. Barnard; M., Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Alfred W. James is presenting the farcical comedy, "Are You a Mason?" twice nightly.

CHESTER.

ROYALTY.—R. M., Mr. H. Norcott; Mus. D., Mr. Isidore Cantor.—Fred Karno's production, "Scarlet Runners."

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—M., Mr. G. Park.—Harry East presents his popular production, "Novelty."

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Coatbridge Entertainments, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Graham; R. M., Mr. Jack Blair; Mus. D., Mr. John E. Brady.—Gregory Whiteford presents the Scotch comedy, "Bauldy."

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mrs. H. G. Dudley Bennett; M., Mr. J. A. Spencer.—Mrs. Brandon-Thomas' company are here on a return visit in "Charley's Aunt."

HIPPODROME.—P., The Coventry Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. G. E. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. H. Parkes.—Lily Morris heads the bill with her latest comedy successes. Jerry and Co. feature "Carpenters" and "A New Light on the Housing Scheme"; Jennie and Cecil Astley are saxophone and edoophone experts; Cyd Sydney, comedian and eccentric dancers; Mervan Sisters, vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Frederick Culpitt, magical comedian; and Harold Walden, entertainer, are also in the bill.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Walter Bellian; Mus. D., Mr. W. Harold Fairholm.—The successful farce, "Up in Mabel's Room," provides this week's attraction, and Miss Betty Fairfax as Mabel Essington is admirably supported by Mr. Keith Kenneth and a strong company.

HIPPODROME.—P., Theatre of Varieties (Derby), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. David G. Bliss; G. M., Mr. Ernest A. Vincent.—"Joy Bells," one of Albert de Courville's best revues, is proving a big attraction. A first-class company includes such popular artists as Fabbie Benstead, Tom Heathfield, and Arthur Reece.

PAVILION.—P., Strollers' Entertainment Syndicate, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. C. Watkin Knight.—The Versatiles, presented by Mr. Scott Gordon, are an excellent combination of artists.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith; Mus. D., Mr. V. S. Chapman.—Alfred Denville's stock company.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. & G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Mme. Walker's Juveniles in quick-change vocal and dancing scena; Julian Ross, vocal comedian and entertainer; O'Brien and Lady, crazy tumblers; Alf. Thomas, peal of frivolity; Vera and Wells, comedy act; Lafittes, musical cycle novelty; Loch and Lomond, in characteristic scenes.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; R. M., Mr. Harry Tindell; M. C., Mr. W. Medhurst. — Mr. N. Carter Slaughter, supported by Miss Grace Sweeting, presents Sir Hall Caine's play "The Eternal City," with Mr. Slaughter as David Rossi and Miss Seeting as Roma.

KING'S HALL (Pictures). — Licensees, Harry Day's Amusements; R. M., Mr. Robert Fisher.—Pearl Mitchell, violinist, with her sister at the piano.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE. — L., Messrs. Murray King and Clark; G. M., Mr. Douglas Gordon; A. M., Mr. George E. Godwin; Mus. D., Mr. F. Seymour.—Messrs. Arthur Gibbons and Martin Henry's company in the Grand Guignol plays.

PIER THEATRE.—M. & Sec., Mr. H. Owen Taylor; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—"The Impossible Husband," presented by the "K." Productions.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.— Mr. Ernest W. Palfreyman's revue, "Golden Glitter."

DEVONSHIRE PARK.—M. & Sec., Mr. E. A. Brown. — The dansant every afternoon to "Jenkies" Band, under the direction of Captain Street. On Wednesday evening the Trix Sisters, supported by Eva Evalda, violiniste; Daisy Morland, solo pianiste; and Charles Conyers, ventriloquist and conjurer.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. A. W. Hyde; R. M., Mr. G. T. Pawsey.—The musical comedy revue, entitled "Venuses of 1922."

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE. — P., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. R. Poole.—Mr. Albert Sember's repertoire company are this week appearing in "The Idol of Paris." Mr. Val Gurney is prominent as Victor Castrelie, and Miss Camille Ronald as Flare-Flare proves entirely adequate. Mr. Willie Reid is laughable as Tatavo, and clever support in the comedy line is rendered by Miss Jennie Hackett as Ann Sancterre.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. The Gloucester Hippodrome Co.; B. M., Mr. W. Edward.—Mr. Will Dalton presents the revue "Heads or Tails," a bright entertainment, chiefly carried through by Mr. George Norton, a clever comedian, Fred Manson, Lynn Wright, a favourite, Albert Dennis, and Sadie Boston, Lola Neilson, Peggy Mackintosh, Maisie Gordon, and Peggy Vincent.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—M. D., Counc. J. H. Curry; A. M., Mr. S. S. Hawdon; Mus. D., Mr. J. R. Bingley.—Murray King and Clark's company in "Woman to Woman."

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. Ernest Marler; A. M., Mr. C. Chapman; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stevens.—Miss Wish Wynne, in character sketches and songs; M. A. Moron, the French clown; Tom Gott, comedian; George Parr, whistler and mimic; The Balfour Twins, dancers; Val Vett, ragtime artist; and Winifred Hammond, soprano.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; Mus. D., Mr. E. James.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company are presenting "The Belle of New York," with Lillian Campbell in the title-rôle.

GRAND THEATRE. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. Hinton; Mus. D., Mr. L. Crabtree.—The musical comedy, "The Wheel of Fortune," is being staged here.

PALACE THEATRE. — P., Palace Theatre (Halifax), Ltd.; M., Mr. W. Stephenson; Mus. D., Mr. W. Davidson.—A good bill here contains The Three Equals, statue builders; Alfredo, vagabond violinist; Fred Brezin, conjurer; J. and E. Mestry's Up-to-Date Girls; Willie Wallie, in comedy and magic; Jack Barker and Geo. Lee, the new comedy star.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY.—G. M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. B. Mainwaring Dunstan presents the sparkling light comedy, "Brown Sugar." An excellent company includes Miss Christine Cooper and Mr. Stanley Ravenscroft.

HITCHIN.

BLAKE'S THEATRE.—P., Blake Bros. (Theatres), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Will Rolston.—Ray and Evans, in burlesques and oddities; and pictures.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Hitchin Playhouse, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. R. A. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. L. G. Shrive.—The Two Jays present their electro musical parodies; Jock Harris, the Scottish entertainer, with his concertina; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

HIPPODROME. — P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mrs. Kimberley and Frank Liston's company, in the musical domestic play, "Kiddie o' Mine."

PALACE.—P., Matnaghten's Circuit, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Fred Haming.—Malcolm Neil, bass vocalist; Jack Straw and George Carrol, in "A Whiff from the Briny"; Jack Boot, assisted by Gaby Lee, comedy; Henry J. Hearty, burlesque; the Huxter Bros., comedians; Alforezo, equilibrist; and Christopher and Columbus, comedy knockabout.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Hugh Robertson; M., Mr. J. D. Robertson.—Mr. Ventom Swift's company are appearing in the revue "All Aboard."

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. Tait.—This week the Versatile Twins are appearing here in an instrumental, vocal, and dancing act.

THE KINO.—M., Mr. Percy Dawsone.—This week Tom Gibson and Gus Granville, the popular comedians.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. Dd., Mr. W. Lupton.—Return visit of the musical comedy, "The Quaker Girl."

KETTERING.

COLISEUM. — L., Messrs Thompson Bros.; G. M., Mr. Arthur Thompson; S. M., Mr. T. Staines; Mus. D., Mr. W. Sturman.—Miss Vera Cooke presents the musical comedy revue, "It's Champion!"

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—S.O., C. Watson Mill.—This week the Lancashire musical farce, "Sally in Society," is staged.

COLONNADE THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. John Halifax.—The variety is this week provided by Phillis and Giles, in a novel performance.

LEEK.

GRAND.—P., L., and G. M., Mr Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass; Mus. D., Mr. F. W. Crossland.—Star pictures: "The Terror," "The Tinted Venus." Varieties include Stanley Russell and Wee May, versatile artists.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner Mr. Milton Bode; B. M., Mr. W. R. King; Mus. D., Mr. Walter W. Waddington.—The Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company are paying a visit here, and presenting "The Romantic Young Lady," "Getting Married," "The Rivals," and other plays.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. Milton Bode; B. M., Mr. W. R. King; Mus. D., Mr. John H. Vann.—Messrs. R. G. Kimberley and Dennis Clyde's repertoire company continue their successful short season here, and as this week's attraction present "Forbidden Love." The various characters are excellently played. On Thursday a new play, "The Colebrooke Poisoning," will be produced.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—C. & M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Trueman Towers; Asst. A. M., Mr. Thomas J. Phillips; Advt. M., Mr. C. R. Stephens; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Lowe. — A strong variety bill here includes Eddie Vogt, the American comedian, and company, in a humorous travestry, "A Dress Rehearsal"; Vera Lavrova (Baroness Royce Garrett), soprano, with Elena D'Obra (the Russian composer) at the piano; Tom Walls and Leslie Henson, Ltd., present Tommy Handley and Harry Buss in a musical absurdity, "The Disorderly Room"; Stanelli and Douglas, fiddle fanatics; Lune and Shaw, henpeck and pecker; Vivian Foster, comedian; and Norman Drew, bass vocalist.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Britcher.—A first visit is being paid here of Leo Field's "Flashes." A good all-round company includes Charles Clarke, Milly Dixon, Josie Melton, Harry Orchid, Frank Bass, Jack Orchid, J. H. Morris, and Leo Fields, with specialities by the Dinky Girls, Chas. Corke, Sadie San Toi, Leo Fields, The Orchids, and Milly Dixon.

ASSOCIATION HALL. — Mr. Lionel Harris, one of the organisers of the Leicester Repertory Theatre scheme, has got together an excellent company, who are presenting several plays, which are proving successful. The plays given are "The Twelfth Night," "Fan Tan," and "The Mollusc."

MAIDSTONE.

PALACE.—Lessees, Messrs. F. E. Chabôt and R. P. Green; G. M., Mr. F. E. Chabôt; A. M., Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—A new edition of the musical comedy burlesque "Jangles," produced by William De Lacy, is [illegible] the boards here.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

EMPIRE.—P., The Empire Palace of Varieties, Middlesbrough, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Bastiman; A. M., Mr. Gerald Spencer; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Shackleton.—The African Productions Company are presenting "London to Baghdad," revue in seven scenes.

HIPPODROME.—P., The North of England Cinema Co.; A. M., Mr. W. T. Gibson; R. M., Mr. Frank E. Parker; Mus. D., Mr. H. J. Waldron.—A capital musical performance is given here by "Napoli," the rag-time violinist; and pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner, Mr. Milton Bode; B. M., Mr Jack H. Turner; Mus D., Mr. Walter Ashton.—The Rex Gerard Repertory Co. commenced their second week with "The Walls of Jericho." The three-act farce, "Cook," is billed for Thursday and Friday, with Christine Waycher as Comfort Pryce.

NEW THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Lavrie Owen; S. M., Mr. Fred Murray.—Stanley Kirby and Harry Hudson amuse at the piano; Stepanie Anderson presents Pero and Perette in a novel dancing scena; Arthur Gilroy, the whistler; The Goodalls, trampoline artists; Bobbie and Beatie, in a comic railway scena; Wells and Nash, comedians and dancers; and Marie Lawton, with her harp, provide an excellent programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Theatre Royal, North Shields, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Horace Lee; A. M., Mr. Sydney Hellyer; Mus. D., Mr. John Sutherland.—Mr. Harry Firth's company in musical burlesque, "Oh, Dolly!"

BOROUGH THEATRE. — P., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; G. M., Mr. G. F. Hill; R. M., Mr. James Johnson; Mus. D., Mr. Cecil H. Lavender.—Miss Constance Risdon and Mr. James Vedale, in vocal scena; Lowdini, musical genius; and pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs Bostock and Fitt; M., Mr Hy. Furnival.—Messrs. Patrick Grenville and Sydney Foster present "The Bill of Divorcement."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Bostock and Fitt.—Messrs. G. and J. Kirby present "The Circus Queen."

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THATCHED PICTURE THEATRE.—P., Bond and Sons; M., Mr. G. Starkey.—Jean Schwiller and Julie Dolaro, Dainty Iris.

SPRING GARDENS.—P., Mr. Horace Rose.—The Drolls.

CHAPEL FIELD GARDENS.—Miss Elsie Fisher.

OLDHAM.

PALACE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatres of Varieties Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Kiddie Kennedy appears in her latest success, "Sarah Jane"; Gaston Palmer, juggling comedian, in his clever act; Adelaide Gretton, contralto, and Violet Locke, solo pianist, present a refined musical turn; Charles Norton, the clever mimic; Teddy Stream, eccentric comedian; The Osborne Trio, dancers and equilibrists; Edgar Dickson, the man with two voices; and the Palace Pictures.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M. and S., Mr. W. F. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—Mr Howard Leslie is presenting Sara Allgood and the Irish Players during the week here. The repertoire includes "The Witness to the Will" (for the first time in England); "The Eloquent Dempsey," "Mixed Marriage," "The Building Fund," &c., and Sara Allgood in old Irish folk songs.

PAISLEY.

THEATRE.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Harry W. Pinchon; Mus. D., Mr. Bert W. Stephens.—A short dramatic season has been inaugurated by Mr. Arthur Hinton and company, the plays this week being "The Scandalmongers," "Temptation," and "The Sorrows of Satan."

RINK PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—S. P., Mr E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Richard Lever; Mus. D., Mr. James F. McArthur.—The Three Its, singers and dancers; George Young, blind musician; and pictures.

PENTRE.

GRAND.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis; R. M., Mr. T. Norman Akeroyd. — Mr. Harry Mears presents his musical absurdity "How Ripping." Specialities are introduced by Maudie Tottle, Little Freddie Hackin, Tiny Hetty, Jack Gillam, Beryl Burke, Mignon De Rone, The Original Exclusive Girls, and Harry Mears.

RAMSGATE.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Mrs. Reeve Sanger; R. M., Miss L. M. Bridges; M. D., Mr. A. Williamson.—Bobbie Graham and Mabs Hardy in "Dainty Ankles."

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—The return visit of Murray King and Clark's company in "Romance" is proving a powerful attraction. On Monday night Tittell-Brune scored a great success as Cavallini; whilst Frank Lacy as Van Tuyl, and Vincent Clive as Tom won golden opinions.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Jackson's Amusements, Ltd.; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson.—The varieties here are provided by Alf. Jepson, a light comedy artist; and Brown and Potter, and the Wise Ga-Za-Bo.

SALFORD.

PALACE.—P., Salford Palace, Ltd.; M.D., Mr. Moorhouse; R.M., Mr. Geo. Bradsford.—Fred Collins presents his all Scotch comedy revue "Keep Guessing."

SCARBOROUGH.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Empire (Wakefield), Ltd.; M., Mr. G. H. Hawkins.—This week, Lena Ashwell's Players, for the third week of their season, present on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday "Candida," with Miss Esme Church in the title-rôle. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, "She Stoops to Conquer."

THEATRE ROYAL.—L & M., Mr. Matthew Glenville.—The Great Carlton, Lily Burnard, comedienne, and the Scarborough favourite Bobbie Burns.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. Frank Forbes-Robertson, supported by full London company, in "The Call of the Road," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," "David Garrick," and "Mice and Men."

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Harry Taylor.—Archie Pitt presents the musical comedy revue, "Mr. Tower of London," including Gracie Fields and Archie Pitt.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Mark Lorne. — Harry Day presents the revue, "Spangles."

ROYAL PIER.—A. M., Mr. H. C. Sait.—Miss Jessie Templeton presents the popular concert party, The Toppers, including Harry Speller, and Carino, violinist.

SOUTHEND.

AMBASSADOR'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. Herbert Jay; R. M., Mr. A. E. Newton; Mus. D., Mr. T. Burrows.—First visit of "Mutt and Jeff," American musical comedy.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; R. M., Mr. E. H. Neighbour; Mus. D., Mr. Chas. H. Meek.—Beresford and Pearce present the circus revue, "Bare-Backs," Sid Kirby and Gracie Hartington.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co.; A. M., Mr. A. Walker.—The attraction here is Mr. Alexander Marsh and Miss Carrie Baillie and company in Shakespeare's plays.

PALLADIUM.—A. M., Mr. Joseph Bernard Hothersall.—La Veen and Cross occupy the premier position in this week's attractive programme. Other turns are A. C. Astar, ventriloquist; Miss Lucille Benstead, Australia's prima donna; Bobbie Kerrigan, the Minature Middy of Mirth; Florence Irving, violiniste; and Leslie's Cadets.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., Southport Pier Co.; A. M., Mr. P. Artingstall.—Mr. Hamilton Deane and his repertory company continue to give satisfaction. This week they appear in "John Glayde's Honour," "A Message from Mars," and other plays.

SUNDERLAND.

THEATRE ROYAL.—G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. Richard L. Griffiths; Mus. D., Mr. E. Field.—Mr. Harry Korri and company in the musical burlesque entitled "Don't Worry."

PALACE.—P., Mr. A. G. Hamilton; R. M., Mr. W. Gillespie; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hubble.—Pictures, and varieties by the Rema Duo, in an equilibristic act.

KING'S. — P., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; R. M., Mr. E. Jeffries; Mus. D., Mr. W. Hugh Jones.—Pictures, and vaudeville by the Yelson Trio of gymnasts.

EMPIRE.—P., Sunderland Palace Company; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. A. E. Barnes; Mus. D., Mr. H. Elliott Smith.—A Wylie-Tate revue, "The Scrap-Book," presented by a capable company, is the attraction.

VICTORIA HALL.—P., Sunderland Corporation; L., Mr. Robert Courtneidge; G. M., Mr. Douglas Millar.—The Macdona Players present Barrie's "Quality Street." There is a strong cast, including Miss Alice Bowen, Miss Nellie Hodson, and Mr. Oliver Johnston.

SWINDON.

EMPIRE.—P., Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd; M. D., Mr. Alfred Manners; A. M., Mr. Alfred Manners, jun.; Mus. D., Mr. Oswald Bentley.—Joe Morrison's "Zig-Zag" revue is here for the second time. Miss Maisie Terriss is supported by a strong cast.

TONYPANDY.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis and Son; R. M., Capt. W. Willis.—A smart variety bill includes Charles Garth, in a dramatic scena, "In the Flat Below"; Charles Stevens, comedian; H. M. Burnaby and a piano; Albert Letine, in a novel burlesque scena; Peters, in a pot-pourri act; Drury Channell and Christine Silver, in two dance fantasias, "The Flame Boy" and "Pongo"; Claire Forster, in a beautiful act, entitled "Art and Grace," and the Empirescope.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and M., D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Sec., Mr Arthur Pearse; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Crocker.—A short season of vaudeville opens here this week.

PAVILION.—G. M. (for the Corporation), Mr Charles G. Price; Mus D., Mr. E. W. Goss.—In addition to a picture programme this week, interest is centred around the visit of the London String Quartette, who are always a popular fixture.

WESTCLIFF.

NEW PALACE.—P. & M., Miss Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Miss Florence Dean; Mus. D., Mr. Adam Seebold.—Lionel Bute presents "Bulldog Drummond."

WEYMOUTH.

PAVILION THEATRE.—L., Mr. E. Wheeler.—Miss K. Morris's company in "Love Among the Paint Pots."

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND.—Sole L. & M., Mr. E. H. Bull; Mus. D., Mr. A. Jackson.—Jack Esmond presents "Eliza Comes to Stay," preceded by a one act play, entitled "The Punctual Sex."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; M., Mr. James Kilgour; S. M., Mr. Stanley Mayo; Mus. D., Mr. A. Grimmett.—"The Show Box," presented by Thea Productions, Ltd. Strong cast, includes Jenny Gregson, Harry Gunn, and Mark Stone.

ROYAL.—P., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; A. M., Mr. E. T. Kisbey; Mus. D., Mr. H. Bradley.—Will Garland presents the revue "All Black."

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton, C.B.E., J.P.; R. M., Mr. Tom Bell; Mus. D., Mr J. W. Austin.—Mr. Geo. Anthony is presenting another variety programme, including Bert Maple and Billie May, and the Nine Dainty Dots.

YORK.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; R. M., Mr. Fredk. Stafford. — Herbert [illegible] Productions present "Charlie Goes East."

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Follett Pennell.—Mr. Leon M. Lion, in conjunction with Messrs. Tom Walls and Leslie Henson present "Brown Sugar," with Miss Eileen Beldon in her original part of Stella.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1922.

MUSIC HALL LADIES' PHILANTHROPY.

SPRING is here, and with it have arrived the various Flag Days, which, besides helping to brighten London, fill the coffers of the philanthropic institutions of the Metropolis. Of all the charitable causes for whose profit these functions are designed, none is more worthy of support than the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, which was the pioneer of the flag day. Under the name of "Tag Day"—now called "Forget-me-not Day"—if we remember rightly, the ladies of the Guild first instituted the practice of bestowing a small token in return for the penny, the sixpence, or the half-crown which the passer-by could be induced to give. This token, which takes the form of a spray of forget-me-nots, is intended to render the wearer immune from attack by the fair vendors.

Forget-Me-Not Day.

The example set by the Guild was speedily followed, notably by the popular QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S Rose Day, which has become a national feature of the month of June, and numerous other causes are benefited by the aid of the little flag.

The cause of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild has been frequently pleaded in these columns, but too much could never be said in its praise. Oldest among the variety charities, the Guild has for nearly a score of years laboured for the welfare of the poorer members of the profession. Always it is the case of the children first. They are catered for from the moment of their birth, for it is in maternity cases that the Guild is most active. Doctor and nurse, nourishment and infant clothes are provided for the necessitous, and the way is paved for the safe arrival of the little one into the world. The mother is assisted by grants of money, and afterwards, if desirable, the little one is put to a school and its future provided for. The ambition of the Guild is to build an orphanage, and, indeed, a substantial sum has already been secured as a nucleus for the scheme, but much more funds have to be acquired before their hopes in that direction can be realised. Eloquent, indeed, are the letters from grateful parents in acknowledgment of the benefits derived from the Guild.

Tuesday, June 6, is "Forget-Me-Not" Day, and a call is made for helpers. A thousand collectors are wanted. Here is the opportunity for the stars to shine in the sun. Popular artists might well spare an hour or two during the day to garner the golden coin—or the Treasury notes—for the Guild.

Stars in the Sun.

A mere perusal of the Guild's balance-sheet gives only a partial indication of the good work done. In addition to the grants of money and in kind, numerous garments are given away, and many of the engagements secured by members of the profession are due to the fact that they are made presentable by clothes furnished by the wardrobe of the Guild, or are able to work with the aid of stage costumes from the same source.

And all the work is accomplished with sympathy and understanding, without any of the inquisitorial methods which mar the good effect of some charity organisations. The Executive Committee make the work a labour of love. LADY DE FRECE is unswerving in her interest for the Guild, and many lady artists assist by all the means in their power. The honorary officers have served the Society long and faithfully. Mrs. CHARLES COBORN, the Vice-President, and Miss LOTTIE ALBERT, the hon. treasurer, have been associated with the Guild almost since its inception, and are as untiring in their efforts as ever.

Who could refuse aid to such a cause as this? Let all those who have promised to help not only keep their word, but induce others to come forward. A postcard addressed to the Guild Offices, 18, Charing Cross Road, will bring all particulars by return.

It is hoped to make "Forget-me-not Day" this year a record one. Whether or not the hope is realised depends upon the artists themselves. If they put forth their best efforts the public may be relied upon to respond, and collection boxes, overflowing with coin, will be the result.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Song of the Happy Manager.

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* * *

When the "Full" boards are out, no one's fully bored in.

* * *

It is hinted that Huntley Wright is turning into a dramatist. Enter Huntley PlayWright!

* * *

Barrie Justified.

When Barrie was young, two old ladies thought it a "come down" to attempt plays. But they didn't think it a come down when he went down.

* * *

Barrie parts are said to trouble the inexperienced. Wanted: "How to be Happy though Barried."

* * *

"Critics ought to pay for their seats," is the latest cry. It's all a question of paper.

* * *

Reflection.

Successful actors go down; unsuccessful ones grow down.

* * *

"Dope Film Banned," runs a headline. Why? Mustn't one film banned dope?

* * *

This Week's Riddle.

Q.—How much did the Old Vic. 'old? A.—Not as much as Drury Lane drew.

* * *

"I'm a tragedian, to boot," said the pro. "And do the boots ever hit you?" asked his friend.

* * *

A tragedy in four words:—

Unsuited—
Hooted—
Booted—
Shooted!

* * *

Don't Caper!

"Musical comedy couldn't keep Gladys Cooper," says a contemporary. It had Cooper, and couldn't keeper!

* * *

If the first act bores you, don't get up and go just because the programme describes the second act as "Same as Act I."

TOUCHSTONE.

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

Parody on Detective Comedies—Anatole France to Music — Shakespeare in French — Bernard Shaw Popular—Melodrama at the Comedie Francaise.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Sunday.—The Chimère theatrical society is giving a series of performances at the Mathurins. The main item is a two-act drama by Jean Schlumberger, "Cesaire," being the name of the principal character, who is the rival of two other fishermen for the favours of Rose-Marie and vows vengeance. He has the power of mesmerising, and, using the influence on Benoit, causes the latter to ignore the girl, but he is finally killed by his victim, after having caused the third fisherman to commit suicide. This work was well received by the critics, as was also "La Farce de Popa Gheorghé," four tableaux by Adolphe Orna, concerning a Rumanian priest who hears the confession of a fellow flirting with his wife, pockets a fee for the service, and consoles himself by uncorking a special bottle of wine. This amusing vaudeville is given in the form of a Punch and Judy show with real people.

"Dicky."

This is a parody on English detective pieces. In three acts Gerbidon, Armont and Manoussi have written an amusing play, presented at the Nouveautés, concerning Lord Wilford, a fussy old collector of art objects and enthusiastic reader of detective stories. He receives anonymous letters warning him against prospective burglars, and is constrained to send for Murray, a reputed detective, to guard his treasures. But the letters were written by his secretary, Nelly, scheming to find an excuse for her betrothed, a briefless barrister, to pass his summer holidays near her in Lord Wilford's mansion. The amateur detective has a good time until the pearls of Lady Wilford are reported missing, and he is then commissioned to unravel that mystery. Murray makes all sorts of ridiculous mistakes, even accusing the heir to the title of the robbery. It is another lady guest who is successful, revealing the lord's own daughter as the culprit. This young lady has hidden the pearls because she is also in love with Murray and hoped to compromise her rival, Nelly. Max Darly plays the part of the amateur detective, supported by Regina Camier as the artful secretary, and Gildes as the fussy lord.

"Le Bel Ange Vint."

Such is the title of a two-act production, described as a nightmare revue in 20 tableaux, by Rip, given at the Theatre Michel Monday last. Music is arranged by E. Mathé, costumes by Poiret. Having swallowed a pill which has the power of changing dreams to reality, Ludovic and Esteve are transported to an imaginary country, where they encounter a series of adventures. It is a good show for local consumption.

"Les Noces Corinthiennes."

This work of Anatole France has been adopted as a lyrical tragedy to music by Henri Busser, and was presented on Wednesday at the Opéra-Comique with some success. This drama is now well known and may be briefly described. Hippias and Daphne are to be married, when the latter is taken by her mother, Kallista, to be dedicated to Christ as a sacrifice for the healing of a plague. But Daphne poisons herself only a short time before the high priest, Teognis, arrives to forbid this sacrilege and perform the wedding. Busser's music, conducted by Albert Wolff, pleasing. Mme. Yvonne Gal is a most suitable artist for the lead, and the entire production is in the best Opéra-Comique style.

"Measure pour Measure."

Shakespeare's work, "Measure for Measure," which was but slightly known here, has been presented for a run in French at the Comédie des Champs Elysées (Theatre Montaigne) by G. Pitoeff and his troupe from Geneva. The premiere on Wednesday was quite an event. Guy de Pourtales has made an excellent translation, ably rendered by Pitoeff as the Duke of Vicentio, and his wife as Isabelle.

"Vautrin."

On Friday the Comédie Française produced a four-act piece in prose by Edmond Guiraud, taken from characters in H. de Balzac's novels, more suitable for the Ambigu than the House of Molière. "Vautrin" is really a melodrama, full of impossibilities to-day. The hero is the escaped convict, wanted by the police, hiding under several aliases in lodging-houses, where he meets Lucien de Rubempré, a penniless provincial poet. The poor scribe attempts to take his own life, but Vautrin seizes the pistol and offers to make Lucien's fortune. He takes him to a ball at the Opera, where, posing as a Spanish bishop, he introduces the poet to prominent people. Lucien at first courts a dancer, Esther, who later kills herself, and the young lover is suspected of the crime, but in order to save him Vautrin accuses himself and is led back to prison. We have again a vivid lesson of the difference between a stage play and a book. M. de Feraudy has adroitly created the personality of Jacques Colin, alias Vautrin, a popular bandit; the other rôles are sustained by Fresnay, Denis d'Ines, Reyval, Granval, Numa, Mmes. Ventura, Dussane, J. Faber, etc.

"Le Dilemme du Docteur."

M. Lugné Poe presented this five-act piece of Bernard Shaw at the Maison de l'Œuvre on Wednesday. The French version is by Henriette and Augustin Hamon. The constant efforts of the Œuvre are remarkable, and again we have a bill that will appeal to the literary folks anxious to follow the foreign dramatic movement. Of the numerous theatrical groups in France the organisation of Lugné Poe is undoubtedly the most energetic.

"La Profession de Madame Warren."

The same adapters are responsible for the version of Shaw's four-act play, "Mrs. Warren's Profession," revived last week for the inauguration of the Treteau Fortuny under the direction of Mme. Fernande Cabanel and Max Viterbo. This work has been staged by Yoris d'Hanswick, with Mme. Suzanne Despres in the leading rôle.

Other Revivals.

And I may add for the sake of record that Louis Verneuil's "Mademoiselle ma Mere" was resumed on Friday at the Theatre Antoine, with the author and Mlle. G. Morlay in the lead. "L'Atlantide," in nine tableaux, by Henri Clerc, from the novel of P. Benoit, with incidental music by Tiarka Richepin, was staged last evening (Saturday) at the Eden, now under the management of Alphonse Franck; "Reve de Valse," French version of Oscar Strauss' waltz dream, in three acts, by Jules Chancel and Xanroi, at the Ba-Ta-Clan (summer direction of M. Trebor); "L'Enfant du Miracle," three-act comedy of R. Charvay and P. Gavault, at the Trianon; "La Gamine," four-act comedy, by P. Veber and H. de Corsse, at the Renaissance (temporary management of Paston and Rivers).

THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

"The Lady Bug"—"The Bronx Express"—"Chains of Dew"—"The Charlatan"—"The Shadow"—"The Night Call."

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, April 29.—At the Apollo Theatre there is a new farce, by Frances Nordstrom, called "The Lady Bug," which shows how a well-meaning but misguided young woman named Marion Thornton tries to reform criminals. Her staff of servants is made up of ex-convicts. The maid is a reformed shoplifter, the cook a once notorious poisoner, and the butler a reclaimed kidnapper. She even introduces an elderly murderer into her suburban home, expecting to influence him for good by means of pale blue decorations in his room. Her rebellious husband joins in a plot to cure her of her strange whims by bribing the murderer to pretend that he has killed the butler. Then, as they say, the fun begins. There is a lot of running up and down stairs and much shouting, while the would-be reformer "concentrates," and sends out beneficial "thought waves." The butler, supposed to be dead, suddenly turns up in scant attire, and the suspected murderer turns out to be quite a respectable old gentleman, although it is hinted that he was let off with a light sentence, "because he murdered his mother-in-law." John Cumberland, as the husband, is quite amusing.

"The Bronx Express."

Written originally in Russian, and acted here on the Yiddish stage, this play by Ossip Dymow is an amusing medley of drama, farce, and burlesque. The central figure is David Hungerstoltz, a Jewish button-maker, many hours of whose life are spent in riding uptown and downtown in the subway. He refuses to let his daughter Leah marry the man of her choice—a penniless young author—and treats her so harshly that the girl leaves home. He goes in search of her, and falls asleep in a subway car, giving opportunity for a realistic bit of comic pantomime. Hungerstoltz has heard of the millions made by the proprietors of the various articles advertised in the cars, and the following scenes illustrate what is passing in his mind as he sleeps. He dreams that he is indulging in the orgies of the idle rich. The guests at the millionaire's house where he finds himself are the subway advertisements animated and personified. Amid the revels he has a vision of his Leah wandering about the streets, of his little son as a ragged newsboy, and of his faithful wife in deep distress at his desertion of her. In the last act he is home again in his Bronx flat, softened and humanised by his midnight experience, and ready to welcome his Leah when she returns safe and sound. The rejected lover is welcomed, too, and domestic peace is restored in the familiar fashion with a promise of wedding bells. Mr. and Mrs. Coburn are at the head of the company. Produced at the Astor Theatre, the play was well received, the various characters being faithfully represented.

"Chains of Dew."

Susan Glaspell, who wrote "The Verge" and "Trifles," is the author of the above-named three-act comedy, which has just been produced by the Provincetown Players at their own theatre. It is a rough sketch or study of a poet, an egotistical individual named Seymour Standish, who fancies he is a genius, and thinks his wife is anything but bright. Only an "emancipated" woman can understand him, he thinks, meanwhile posing as a martyr. Then the wife learns a thing or two about "emancipation" from a female votary of birth control and bobbed hair who comes to their "little grey home in the West," and, prompted by her husband's mother, a very shrewd old lady, the poet's wife humours him, not by bobbing her hair and advocating birth control, but by meekly accepting the rôle of the "cross" he has to bear. The play ends with the self-satisfied Standish enjoying his martyrdom and sadly deprecating the environment which keeps him from writing the great American poem.

"The Charlatan."

This is the latest addition to the list of "mystery plays." It has a magician for its central character, and the audience is kept in a high state of excitement by mechanical tricks and illusions. Chairs move, doors close, and pictures fall; swords are plunged into a cabinet which the Hindu assistant of the magician has just entered, and the climax comes when the magician's faithless wife (who is made to vanish from a cabinet by her husband) is found poisoned by a mysterious Indian drug. No less exciting is the process of solving the mystery of the crime, but the explanation is rather weak, being surprising, but hardly convincing. The complications in this drama pile up faster than the average playgoer can follow them. Frederick Tiden, Purnell Pratt, Olive Wyndham, Margaret Dale, and Fania Marinoff are the principal players. Adolph Klauber has just produced the play at the Times Square Theatre.

"The Shadow."

This is the first play by Eden Philpotts, the well-known novelist, that has been produced in America. It is a tragedy of Dartmoor in three acts, telling the story of Hester Dunnybrig and the two men who love her. One of them is arrested, tried, and convicted of the murder of the old skinflint of Little Silver, but the real murderer is the other man, whom Hester has married. The play shows how both men try bravely and honestly to take the course that will best serve her, and how in the end she has to decide what is to be done. Helen MacKellar, who plays Hester, is miscast. Dallas Welford, as the pessimistic butcher, Willes Gay, J. M. Kerrigan as the dogmatic postmaster, Thomas Turtle and Percy Waram in the virile rôle of Philip Blanchard are all very good.

"The Night Call."

"Bootlegging" figures in the above-named play, lately produced at the Frazee Theatre. It deals with the murder of a Captain Richardson in an old-fashioned mansion on the New Jersey coast, which is being used as their base of operations by a gang of liquor smugglers. The murdered man is shown to have been of no account, which rather dampens the interest in finding the murderer. For the rest, there are rappings and tappings, and the stage is darkened at frequent intervals, while figures glide through secret panels and go prowling through the tunnel used in smuggling the liquor. The play was written by Adeline Hendricks and produced by the Players' Assembly Company.

COMEDY FOR EVER.

FUNNY MEN MADE BY THE PUBLIC.

By STANLEY LUPINO.

No matter how long the world exists comedy will live. It will always be the dominant feature of our lives.

Laugh, and the world laughs with you, is a slogan quite as true to-day as it was when brought into being. The world will always laugh; it cannot help laughing, despite the Genoa Conference.

Boadicea's Bad Taste.

And it has always been so. I do not quite remember what happened in the Stone Age; my memory is a bit dim about what really took place then, for I was quite young at the time. But I am told that Boadicea didn't like me, and therefore I was put first turn. There were Charlie Chaplins in those days, but instead of a walking-stick they carried a lump of granite. Charlie was not the first comedian to wear a fine moustache—the early Britons had them on.

People will always be able to appreciate humour. They did so during the war, when comedians were in great demand. And in cases of distress the profession has always been called upon to create laughs.

[Photo Foulsham and Banfield.
STANLEY LUPINO
as James Hicks in "His Girl" at the Gaiety.

But have the authorities ever thought of members of our profession dying under the strain of the Income Tax!

Made by the Public.

Though comedy may go on for ever and ever, it might develop upon different lines. It will certainly alter; it does so periodically. Comedy works in cycles. The old jokes come back, but in new clothing, and they take quite as well as they did formerly. Very little that is done on the stage is really new. There are only seven or eight different steps in dancing; about 10 different funny falls, and you can only play them to situations that have arisen before. There is no step in dancing that you can make new.

And yet we are said to be funny men in spite of these circumstances. Comedians are made by the public. The public just pick you out, and if they like you, you are theirs for ever. We are the servants of the public. It doesn't matter what anybody else says or thinks—the managers have got to have you. The public force you into prominence.

Comedy and Charm.

With comedy there must be charm. In other words, to be successful, a comedian must be possessed of some charm that will appeal to our women folk. Women nowadays, take a keen interest in comedy—they like the comedian who makes humour fun to their particular tastes. All the successful comedians will agree with me.

The day of the objectionable gag has, I am glad to say, gone for ever. Jokes have become cleaner. It is much better to make a house laugh by a good, solid, ridiculous joke than by an innuendo which makes a few people in the stalls laugh. For every unclean gag a comedian ought to be fined £1; in fact, half his salary even if he only earns £1 a week. It cuts both ways. No comedian in the world who is anything but clean could then get a living. That is why comedians like Sir Harry Lauder, Billy Merson, and Wilkie Bard are clever—their comedy is clean and their humour pure. I have never heard Leslie Henson give an objectionble gag or Jack Hulbert, and the consequence is that women like their turns, and the houses are full when they perform.

Clever Clowning.

For humour to-day a comedian must depend upon the ridiculous—upon absolutely silly sayings. And upon clever clowning, which is only taking a leaf out of Grimaldi's book—and Grimaldi was the first real clown. We do the same things to-day as he used to do in the days of old, except that it is done to-day in morning clothes and straight make-up.

Another thing I would like to say is that scenic productions are dead. The cinema has absolutely killed everything that the stage could ever produce scenically. The cinema has put on such wonderful productions that the stage now has to depend entirely upon the artists and not upon the scenery. In my own small way I find that the sillier the joke to-day the longer the laugh—the more ridiculous the joke the bigger the laugh. Rollicking fun is the tonic the public like.

In my present show I get laughs with Margetson, and every time we do a "bad" joke we both hide ourselves in a corner, and the public enjoy our move. They realise that we have cracked a joke that we think has not gone down well, and our actions tickle their fancy.

Public's Intelligence.

So long as he keeps on the clean side and looks nice, a comedian need have no fear. Unfortunately, some comedians do not give the public the credit for having as much intelligence as they themselves have. In fact, the public know as much about the profession as we do ourselves, if not more.

Of course, it is difficult nowadays for a comedian to find something new to give to the public. What chance has he with, say, eight or nine shows a week?

Profession's Trouble.

The whole trouble confronting the profession to-day is that the public cannot afford to pay the present price for seats at theatres because of the existence of the Entertainment Tax. Theatres are being starved because of the tax, and the proprietors of shows are thereby unable to make any money to cover the cost of their outlay. We are just outcasts, despite the fact that in the past we have given of our best to make a success the various Government "stunts" during and since the war, and to help in every way financially the various public charities.

Anyhow, as I have stated, there will always be comedians, both inside and outside the Government service. Those outside, by reason of their broader outlook must of necessity be the more popular.

BEHIND THE SCENES.

No; the leading lady was not dismissed. A little bird whispered to her, so that she was able to give her notice first. This rather upset the management's dignity, they say—the dignity of a management which wasn't so "human" to the lady as it might have been.

* * *

The number of times another management has lost theatres through its principal's failure to keep appointments has caused that gentleman to be considered among his friends an an eccentric, and to be the cause of no little *pique* on their part.

* * *

"Paper" has not been entirely absent during the past week from one of our "sure winner" theatres.

* * *

A leading actor and actress will never act together again. They've properly tangled things between them.

* * *

The author's and producer's names ought not to appear on a certain programme. Another man it was who made both playand presentation possible.

* * *

Fleet Street's objection to a certain comedienne would be unreservedly withdrawn, were the true story known.

* * *

People are saying that the best way to save the Old Vic. is to promote a fight at Olympia. If it lasts 15 seconds less thanthe last, the sum required will just be secured.

* * *

If you hear a strong Yorkshire accent in the foyer at the next Lyceum *première* don't be surprised.

* * *

By the way, what is exactly the dispute about the well-known war-time musical comedy, *and who really did write the music?* It does get one guessing as to the real definition of a composer.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

Harry Tate Coming Home—Opening of Knickerbocker Club—Victoria Palace Golfers—Death of Bert Clark.

A Welcome Return.

"The Era" learns that Mr. Harry Tate and his "Hello Canada" company will complete their Canadian tour at Montreal on the 20th, and four days later will leave for England by the s.s. "Melita.'

Miss Vera Lavrova.

Miss Vera Lavrova (Baroness Royce Garratt) appears this week at Leicester, and next week at Manchester. Her accompanist, Miss Elene D'Obra remains in town as she is sitting this week for an examination in connection with the Royal Academy of Music.

Daphne Pollard Sails for England.

Miss Daphne Pollard is among the passengers on the White Star liner "Olympic," which sailed from New York on Saturday for England.

The Knickerbocker Club.

The new club—the Knickerbocker—will be formally opened next Sunday. As announced in these columns last week, Sir Harry Lauder is to perform the opening ceremony.

Some Licences.

The Licensing Courts for entertainments have just been held at Glasgow, and the final figures show that there are 15 theatres, 115 cinemas (68 with music-hall licences), 84 billiard rooms, and 60 dancing halls. The authorities in Glasgow are always willing to grant full licences where necessary, so that every variety theatre has a dramatic licence, and as seen from above figures, more than half of the picture-houses have licences for variety business.

Bert Levy at Liverpool.

Fresh from his American tour, Mr. Bert Levy opened at the Liverpool Empire on Monday evening before an audience which showed their appreciation of his artistic and clever entertainment. Mr. Levy, with a wonderful degree of skill, presented on the screen many portraits and comic sketches, the audience following with rapt attention the movements of his pencil as it rapidly developed the drawings on a small blackened disc placed in the stage lantern. We understand that Mr. Levy intends, during his tour in England, to invite poor children to a matinée each Saturday, when he will give an exhibition of his skill on subjects which will have an immense amount of interest for youthful minds.

Vaudeville River Club.

For the opening of the new Palm Court at "Utopia," Thames Ditton, a special musical programme was organised by Mr. Harry Day, president of the Vaudeville River Club, and Mr. Harry Goodson. Among the artists who entertained their fellow members between the dances were Alice Hollander, Simon Wery, Rorke and Bray, Pearl Beresford, Pearl Mitchell, Carr Lynn, &c. Sir Wm. Maxwell performed the opening ceremony.

"Round in 50"—100th Performance.

The 100th performance of "Round in 50" took place at the London Hippodrome on Monday.

George Carney in Australia.

Messrs. F. and H. Reeves and Lamport have received a cable from Australia announcing that George Carney made an enormous success in his opening on Monday, the 8th, at the Tivoli, Melbourne.

Victoria Palace Golfers.

It seems that two of the chief functionaries at the Victoria Palace are keen followers of the Royal and ancient game of golf. These are Mr. J. A. Webb, the assistant manager, and Mr. J. Weaver, the musical director. Both play at Mitcham where they breed "plus" men, and whither they wend their way on fine mornings to hammer the nimble pellet along the fairway, with only very occasional excursions into the "rough."

Death of Bert Clark.

We regret to announce the death of Bert Clark (Hubert Knight Clark), formerly of the well-known duo, Clark and Hamilton. After undergoing an operation for an internal disorder he died at Brooklyn, America, on Wednesday last. The deceased, who was not only a comedian but an accomplished musician and composer, was a native of London where he was born in 1873. He paid his first visit to America when about sixteen. At this early age he held a first-class certificate of the Society of Arts for pianoforte playing, having received his musical instruction from Dr. Warriner, of Denmark Hill.

He has been absent from England since 1912. Last year he paid a brief visit to this country especially to see his mother, and appeared at the Palladium, returning to America to fulfil a contract with Schubert. He toured every part of the United States playing twice daily.

Fire at the Casino de Paris.

Our Paris correspondent reports that the stage of the Casino de Paris has been destroyed by the fire which broke out on Tuesday afternoon, the 9th. The Apollo Theatre and the Theatre de Paris adjoining were not damaged, as at first feared, and were opened as usual, but the Casino de Paris is indefinitely closed. The damage is estimated at frs. 1,500,000. Mr. Leon Volterra, who was at his Alhambra, Brussels, when the news was telephoned him, and hastened to Paris, announced, after consulting the architects, that the famous music hall will be re-opened next November, if not earlier.

Nearly 700 persons have been thrown out of employment by the closing of this house. A benefit performance for the staff is to be given at the Eden.

A Silent Act.

This is a story attributed, on good authority, to Harry Crocker, the great little man who presides over the mechanism and destinies of the huge revolving stage of the London Coliseum.

An American "sandshoe dancing act" had been engaged by the management, and the allocation of time to them appeared on the sheet as "8 minutes."

"Eight minutes!" ejaculated the leader of the troupe. "Look here, Mr. Stage-Manager, I can assure you it will require that period for us to take our curtains!"

"Eight minutes is all you get!" nonchalantly replied Harry.

"But we must have fifteen, I tell you! It's a right-down wonderful act. There's never a sound from our sandshoes as we dance, and the public—"

"Eight minutes only!" interrupted the Sphinx-like Crocker.

"But the applause?"

"Applause?" came the retort. "Look here, Mr. Silent-Sandshoes, I assure you that, when the 'tabs' drop, you'll hear yourself walk off!"

Ted Shawn and Ruth St. Denis.

Mr. Ted Shawn and Miss Ruth St. Denis have had a charming welcome extended to them on their arrival in England. They were entertained at dinner at the Trocadero on Sunday night by members of the Dancers Circle. Among those present were Miss Adeline Gené and her husband, Mr. Izett. Speeches were made by Mr. W. P. S. Richardson, of the "Dancing Times," and Miss Gené. In reply, Mr. Ted Shawn gave interesting particulars of his school of dancing in Los Angeles.

Fred Barnes.

Fred Barnes opened at the Alhambra on Monday evening and made his usual success. He is featuring a new chorus number, "Sally," which receives the heartiest of applause.

Charles Gordon.

At the Islington Empire on Monday Mr. Charles Gordon produced a new musical scena, which had a very gratifying reception. In addition to being an expert handbell manipulator, Mr. Gordon is also a clever vocalist and pianist, and each number submited was excellently rendered.

BARRY LUPINO v. LADDIE CLIFF.

Boxing Contest for Silver Challenge Cup.

IN AID OF THE VARIETY ARTISTES' BENEVOLENT FUND

Who is the best light-weight boxer on the London stage?

Mr. R. H. Gillespie, managing director of Moss Empires', Ltd., is determined to find out, for he is to give a silver challenge cup for competition. The cup must be won three times before it becomes the personal property of the holder.

The first contest will take place at the Palace Theatre, on Friday, May 26, at 11.30, between Barry Lupino, of "Round in 50," at the London Hippodrome, and Laddie Cliff, of the "Co-Optimists," at the the Palace. It was originally intended that the fight should take place at the Hippodrome, but under the terms of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, boxing cannot take place there, so Mr. Archie de Bear, on behalf of the "Co-Optimists" kindly arranged for the contest to take place at the Palace, where there is an L.C.C. licence.

The winner will receive the Silver Challenge Cup to hold until the next contest, and the loser a big wooden spoon given by the "Co-Optimists."

Considerable interest is centred in the event, and an effort is being made to obtain the services of Georges Carpentier as referee. If he cannot come, some other famous boxer will perform the duty. The contest will be one of five rounds, and will be under amateur rules.

There will be a uniform price of admission of 2s. 6d., and the whole of the takings will be handed to the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund.

"The Era" learns that Barry Lupino is in strict training (when not on duty at the Hippodrome), at Bray-on-Thames.

Before the main contest there will be one or two exhibitions by well-known boxers.

For South Africa

The following artists sailed from Southampton on Friday last, per R.M.S. "Kinfauns Castle," to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres, Ltd., booked by the I. V. T. A., Ltd., Hoison and Bert, Moss and Maachah.

Miss Emmie Page.

Miss Emmie Page, who is playing lead in "What a Lad!" revue, is making a big success everywhere with "Sleepy Little Curly-Headed Baby" and "Jealous of You."

Mrs. Conn Kenna.

We are glad to hear from Conn Kenna that his wife has made good progress within the past few days, and it is hoped that she will be able to leave for Brighton shortly to recuperate for a couple of weeks.

Vatican Choir at Glasgow.

The management of the Glasgow Alhambra have secured the services of this famous choir for a matinée to-day (Wednesday), under the conductorship of Mgr. Raffaele Casimiri.

Florence Helm and Maudie Vera.

Last week, at the Putney Hippo., that clever pair of light comedy entertainers, Florence Helm and Maudie Vera, presented an act of their own for the first time, which proved very successful, both artists being very versatile. This week Florence and Maudie are appearing at the Hippo., Woolwich.

[Photo, Hana.

MOSS EMPIRES. First Annual Conference of Managers.

Undoubtedly the most successful gathering ever convened in the history of Moss' Empires took place last week at the head offices of the company. At the instigation of the managing director, Mr. R. H. Gillespie, every manager employed by Moss' Empires throughout the kingdom journeyed to London on Wednesday, and took part in a lengthy conference in the afternoon. At this heart-to-heart talk on the big variety firms's administration, suggestions for the still higher advancement of the theatres were asked for and made.

In the evening a dinner was given in the M.E. Lunch Club, the following being present: R. H. Gillespie (chairman), H. Crane, George Manners, Julian Wylie, H. Tennent, Pierre Cohen, Harry Foster, H. Raymond, Alf. Davies, E. Macdermott, A. Charcot, Geo. Richardson, C. Collins, F. Wingett, R. Sidebotham, Herbert Hawkins, E. Glanville, J. Somers, E. Lepard, L. Dalrymple, N. Pallister, E. Edelsten, Albert Voyce, A. H. Williams, Frank Boor, C. T. Hutchison, A. H. Lowe, A. Storey, A. Tetlow, Percy Wilde, T. Osborne, E. Parker, S. A. Hollands, H. Mockett, H. Montefiore, Jack Hayman, L. Lewis, H. J. Benn, J. Nelson, Will Bennet, C. Fountaine, C. J. Day, Frank Allen, G. Newton.

Mr. Gillespie expressed himself as being so satisfied with the result of this first conference of his many managers that it is understood the function will become an annual affair.

Winston's Water Lions.

Winston's Water-Lions and Sea-Nymphs, who were a great attraction at the Empire Theatre, Nottingham, last week, gave a private demonstration at the Sneinton Swimming Baths for the amusement and instruction of upwards of a thousand school children. The youngsters hugely enjoyed watching these clever creatures, who seemed also to thoroughly appreciate the different conditions from their usual tank. The arrangements were in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur H. Williams (manager of the Empire).

Gus Fowler.

Gus Fowler returns to town next Monday, opening at the Finsbury Park Empire after three months in the provinces. Since his appearance at the Victoria Palace Gus has completely renovated his clever act, and had all the apparatus re-silvered and the setting improved.

Reg. Bolton.

Next month Reg. Bolton opens at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, for the season, which runs till October. For panto. next season Reg. will be once more associated with Florrie Forde, who will play a resident season at the Coliseum, Glasgow.

Fred Morris.

Fred Morris, the popular baritone and cornet soloist, informs the Lawrence Wright Music Co. that "Sally" and "Masks and Faces" are two of the biggest numbers he ever had.

Miss Christine Roy.

Miss Christine Roy is creating great enthusiasm everywhere with a new light number by Wynn Stanley and Andrew Allen entitled "Wake Me Up When We Get to Alabamy." Writing from the Palace, Carlisle, last week, Miss Roy says that it was an enormous success there.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last Howard Ward officiated as W.T., Walter Norman as V.T., Cyril Yettmah W.D., Braddy Shaw Y.B., and Arthur Were Secretary.

A hearty welcome was extended to Braddy Shaw upon his reappearance in the Kennel.

The following application for membership has been received: Third Notice, Jack Albert (Albert and Rogers).

All Terriers in town on Sunday next are particularly requested to attend the meeting of the Order, when an important matter will be brought forward for discussion.

Leicester Manager's Bereavement.

The many friends of Mr. Joseph Lawrence, business manager at the Leicester Pavilion, will learn with regret of the death of his youngest daughter, Florrie, who passed away on Sunday, the 7th, after a short illness. Florrie has for several years assisted her father in the clerical duties at the Pavilion, and will be much missed. The funeral took place on Wednesday last at the Gilroes Cemetery.

Variety Artists' Federation.

Members of the V.A.F. are requested to note that twenty-three death levies are now due upon the 1922 books. Red stamps twenty.

Variety at Lord's.

On Saturday afternoon last at Lord's we noticed a number of artists watching the first county match of the season—the Champions v. Warwick—among others Ernie Mayne, Hilda Nelson, Arthur Anarto, Hengler Bros., and of course the O'Gorman Bros., who are members.

Violet Black.

Recently concluding a provincial season on the Controlling Tour, Violet Black opened in town for a season on Monday at the Kilburn Empire in a welcome revival of that popular success, "In the Tube," with that popular comedian, Charlie Bell, in his original part.

Jeanette and Scott.

One of the many bright features of the bill last week at Finsbury Park was the clever performance of various kinds of dancing contributed by Jeanette and Scott, who were making their London debut, and who, we understand, have received offers for a West End production.

Nella Allen.

Next week Nella Allen, the American prima donna, concludes a long season on the L.T.V. Circuit, and commences a season on the Moss' Circuit at Newport on the 29th inst.

Lune and Shaw.

That clever comedy couple, Lune and Shaw, who made such an excellent impression last week at the Alhambra, have received a tempting offer for Australia.

Cole and Robbins Deputise.

In the absence of Will Evans from the bill at the Coliseum last week, Cole and Robbins, the "ebony entertainers," filled the vacancy from Tuesday onwards, making their second appearance at this house within three months. After playing Leeds this week these entertainers return to town next week at the Chelsea Palace.

Arthur Wilmer.

At the Hippodrome, Dublin, recently, Arthur Wilmer was called upon to play Jack Shires' part in "The Buccaneers," at both performances on the Saturday, and was highly complimented by the management on his success.

Daimler and Eadie.

The mercurial comedian, Alec Daimler, and his charming partner, Dora Eadie have now concluded their present engagements here, and are due to sail for South Africa in a few days.

We Three.

That delightful trio of entertainers, We Three, who will next week conclude their present London season, have now become firmly established on the Halls. These artists certainly keep the act up to date with fresh material, and are about to introduce a new number this or next week for their return engagements in the provinces.

Leslie Barker.

The success of Leslie Barker in his delightful coon studies last week at the Victoria Palace was never in doubt, and he was accorded a most enthusiastic reception nightly at this house, for his three numbers, surrounded by a most artistic setting. Leslie was making his first appearance in town on his own since he last appeared here with Miss Gabrielle Ray.

Edith Beverley.

Edith Beverley, who has recently been starring successfully with Mr. A. D. Macfarlane's revue, "Dinkie Darling," opened on Monday, May 8, at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, in a new production "Pantoloonacy," a Rex London, Limited, venture, in which she added further to her rapidly rising reputation.

"Fruits and Spice and All things nice"

What about SUPPER!

What shall it be
— chop?
— steak?
— fish?
— or just cheese?

No matter which—
'O.K.'
is delightful with either.
A Rich Thick Sauce—

VAUDEVILLE GOLFING SOCIETY.

Monthly Medal Competition.

Yet another of the Vaudeville Golfing Society's functions was favoured by the weather on Friday, when the first of the monthly medal competitions was held at Sudbury. Among those who turned up were Messrs. Charles Austin, Horace Sheldon, Harry Ristori, Geo. Sanford, Billy Bleach, Charles King, Geo. Swift, W. S. Wheeler, Bert Weston, Will Fyffe, J. C. Humphreys, Arthur Hanlon, Sammy Shields, the O'Gorman Brothers, and R. Hind.

The competition was won by Mr. Geo. Sandford, with the net score of 79 (handicap 18), and the runners up were Mr. Will Fyffe and Mr. Bert Weston, who tied for second place with a net score of 80. Mr. Sanford played good, steady golf—not deteriorating at any hole, and deserved his win. The brilliant play, however, came from Mr. Will Fyffe, who, scorning the use of wooden clubs, was getting as far with a mid-iron as with the average driver. At the 2nd hole he put his tee shot out of bounds, and had not the putts stopped on the very brink of the hole, he would have had a wonderful round. Dave O'Gorman, who started rather shakily, "came back" in brilliant style, doing the last 9 holes (and the most difficult) in 41 (3 over bogey). Not bad for a 14 man.

In the afternoon the Two O'Gormans rushed off to the Oval to play cricket. We were pleased also to note that Mr. Geo. Swift has returned to his old and best form, and with a bit of luck on the green should be doing big things. Mr. Bert Weston, sound as ever, went round for a good, comfortable 91 gross. Mr. J. C. Humphreys caused great amusement at the 3rd hole, by putting two shots in succession into Josh Taylor's (the local and well-known professional) hut.

Freddie Bentley.

That popular comedian Freddie Bentley, who has been delighting music-hall patrons with his amusing sketch "All Tied Up" for nearly two years, may possibly return to the West End for an important revival, but nothing is definitely settled, as Freddie has still many music-hall dates to fulfil. This week Freddie is playing Cardiff, and early next month will be seen at the Alhambra.

George Graves Home Again.

George Graves returned last week, per ss. Balmoral Castle, from Cape Town, and, to quote his own words, "minus a finger but full of beans." He speaks very highly of the audiences' appreciation of his work in "The Key of the Flat" and "Koffo of Bond Street," which he presented during his tour of the African Theatres, Ltd., establishments, also of the wonderful scenery and climate of South Africa, but what particularly aroused his enthusiasm was the sporting side—big-game shooting, golf, racing, motor touring, and surf bathing.

It was during his trip up to Rhodesia that Mr. Graves met with the accident which resulted in the loss of a finger from his left hand. He was helping the porters in the loading of scenery on a truck when a package slipped and crushed his hand so severely that the finger had to be amputated immediately.

M.H.A.R.A.

The 1,242nd meeting of the executive committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Wednesday of last week, when the following members were present: Messrs. Harry Marlow (chairman of committee), who presided, Reg. Ewen, J. W. Cragg (hon. trustee), Alf. Herald, Monte Bayly, Will Titman, Henry Bekker, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Holmes, of the King's Head Hotel, Buxton, was appointed as agent in that town. Mr. McCarthy submitted the weekly financial statement, which was accepted. A number of cheques were ordered to be drawn, and the meeting terminated.

Members of the M.H.A.R.A. are requested to note that the agency in Swansea has been transferred to Mr. James Halpin, stage manager, Empire Theatre, Swansea, to whom all communications must be addressed.

Olga Morselli.

Of the many lady violinists before the public there are none more popular than Olga Morselli, the delightful young French artist, who pays a welcome return visit next week to the Victoria Palace.

Ben Beyer.

After an absence of over two years, Ben Beyer, the cyclist extraordinary, opened here again at the Empire, Leeds, on Monday for a season on the Moss circuit.

THE OPEN ROAD.

WHOM SHALL WE MEET ON THE WAY?

[Below we give the names and journeys of motoring artists who will be on the road on Sunday. We are always pleased to insert under this heading news items likely to be of interest to members of the profession who are motorists.]

Leslie Strange, Stockport to Bolton.
Hilda Nelson, Liverpool to London.
Fred Duprez, Westgate to London.
Robb Wilton, Liverpool to Birkenhead.
Bruce Green, Bath to London.
Tom Newell, Blackpool to Southsea.
Rich Hayes, Nottingham to Birmingham.
Noni and Horace, Brighton to London.
Lily Morris, Coventry to Leeds.
Will Hay, Ramsgate to Warrington.
Mayne and Sheridan, London to Nottingham.
Osborne and Perryer, Hanley to London.
Terry Wilson, Bristol to Burnley.
Jim Jessiman, Preston to New Brighton.
Vionas, Accrington to Morecambe.

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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE COLISEUM.

Elder Hearn's Minstrels of 1922, presented by J. L. Davies, nearly forty strong, made a great impression on the audience at the Coliseum on Monday, particularly in such numbers as "Zululand," "Evening Bells," "Bad Dreams Blues," and an especially amusing ballet burlesque, "Pavlouski," in which Mr. Gus Chevalier, in skirts, combined the wilder elements of football and terpsichore with the most diverting results. Of the rest of their extensive and thoroughly entertaining repertoire, which also included "Dixieland," "Mamie," "Rosebud," and "Saturday"; quite one of the best was "Bad Dreams Blues," which the whole company, with Mr. Charles Jerome at their head, rendered with great spirit and mock dramatic effect. Mr. Jack Leopold, who shared the "ballet" honours with Mr. Chevalier, showed a rare fund of humour in "Saturday," a comedy number.

Miss Hope Vernon, the songstress with the violin, showed considerable versatility in two songs, "The Memory of Your Love" (straight), "I'm Going To Do It If I Like It" (comedy, and very good too), and with the violin, which she mimicked in most realistic fashion, using Davorski's "Humoresque" as the medium for this unusual talent. Eugen Transky proved to be a truly remarkable tenor of Russian extraction who sang superbly in Italian. Geaika and Geaika also went very well in their comedy whistling and mimicry novelty.

Mr. Alan Brooks, the eminent young author-actor, in his famous American "dramalet," written by himself and entitled "Dollars and Sense," more than deserves the ovations he has received both at this house and at the Alhambra. The play is well written, witty, pithy, and entertaining in every respect, is staged in a novel and time-saving manner, and is perfectly enacted, particularly by Mr. Brooks, who is leading actor, author, and producer in one. It is all about an altruistic young man of wealth who, although in love with another man's wife, prevents her from deserting her husband in his hour of failure by a process which it would be a pity to reveal here.

Miss Ruth St. Denis and Mr. Ted Shawn are not only wonderful dancers, but pastmasters of stage technique; they are artistic to their finger-tips. The most simple yet charmingly effective stage picture is the Japanese Suite, where the entrance of Miss St. Denis is heralded by the "housemaid," who does a lantern dance, and a coolie who bears a yoke with bowls of flowers. All do an appropriate and beautiful dance.

The pièce de résistance is "Xochitl," a dance-drama based on an ancient Toltec legend. Here again the scenery is simple in construction and magnificent in effect. It is the Throne-room of Tepancaltzin, the Toltec Emperor, before whom comes Xochitl and her father with a new recipe for an intoxicant. Inflamed by a sample of the liquor, the Emperor forces his attentions on Xochitl and her father attempts to stab him, but is prevented by the daughter, who suddenly declares her love for love for the Emperor, and all ends well. Superb dancing, wonderful miming, and the whole thing magnificently presented.

THE ALHAMBRA.

A fine array of talent is billed at the Alhambra this week. Mr. Will Evans, in his boisterously funny sketch, "Letting Off the Fireworks," is the recipient of vociferous applause, and the inevitable call before the "tabs"; and the ever popular Harry Weldon, excruciatingly droll in a "Toreador" number, had the heartiest of welcomes. As an encore "Stiffy" was given, to the huge delight of the audience. Debonair Fred Barnes has at present several excellent songs, and on Monday evening "Italian Skies" (one of Feldman's latest hits) was received with enthusiasm, a no less satisfactory greeting being accorded the popular Fred in "Sally" and "Little Old Granny."

The Four Jacksons, a trio of smart girls, who, reined together and in charge of their male partner, manœuvre and prance round the stage after the manner of high-spirited horses, provide an attractive opening turn; Lake and Barrasford, in an act called "Vivacious Vocalism," have two good numbers in "Best Little World" and "Little Chatterbox"; and a novelty in the shape of an electrically controlled clock, which is claimed to be an exact model of one which formerly belonged to Marie Antoinette, and which is still to be seen at the Palace of Versailles, provides an acceptable item. Miss Madeline Collins, who is the fortunate possessor of a pleasing stage presence and a rich soprano voice, sang two numbers to the entire satisfaction of the audience, an excerpt from "La Traviata" being heartily acclaimed; and the popular Sutcliffe Family of Scottish entertainers deservedly earn the plaudits of those present for their fine act. "The Village Dramatic Society," as presented by Mr. Eric Barber and company, completes a fine bill.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

A clever turn is given here by Fran Klint, a humorous exponent of new juggling impossibilities and inconceivable trickery with his gloved hand. His fun with a cigarette, which suffers all sorts of indignities and is yet kept alight, is as wonderful as it is droll, and with billiard balls he is equally baffling. Mystic Clayton is a dealer in magic and spells of a different sort. Many years of painstaking study have enabled him to answer any questions put to him by the audience, and his clever act met with hearty applause.

Pimple's new sketch, "Her Ladyship," with Pimple himself as the butler, is excruciatingly funny; when it is said that Pimple enacts the part of a dear old Lady Plum and Apple, his wife's supposititious mother, to meet the Duke of Richborough, it will be readily guessed what fun results. Excellent support is given by Joe Evans, Maud Granby, George W. Blake and Frank Anthony. The popular Palace Girls have achieved marvels of choreographic efficiency, and their attractive turn is greatly enjoyed. Esta Stella is full of high spirits and animation in "Back to Carolina," and gives some clever impressions. Jean Andrews, L.R.A.M., the golden-voiced soprano, sings most delightfully "The Pipes of Love" and "Sonny Honey Boy," and was very well received. The Reegoes, acrobats, in "Fun in a Fire-Station," provide a clever and original knockabout turn. Percy Honri, with his concertina, is always welcome, and his contributions are all very well rendered. Billie and Billie, the popular juvenile stars, give a bright and spirited turn, including "Cleopatra," "I Want to be the Caretaker's Son," and "Two Little Girls in Blue," and the New McNaughtons, with their clever cross-talk and songs and dances, never fail to amuse.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The Mongadors are here this week with their speciality comedy act, a picturesque scena with a good setting, and they contribute materially to the gaiety of the evening with an alternately grotesque and skilful exhibition with Indian clubs and other contrivances, but it is not exactly what they do but the quaint way they do it, and the cleverness of their manipulation and the quiet humour of their performance, which makes them so justly popular. The Yiddishe Players, I. Busatt (Mordcha), J. Sherman (David), and company, in Mark Bowman's one-act play, "Matter o' Money," presented by H. Bernhardt, extract every ounce of fun out of this serio-comedy of chemists, cabinet-makers, and lent life-savings. The happy ending, wherein Rosie (Vera Gordon) weds her faithful lover, David, and I. Busatt acts with pathos and humour happily blended, and J. Sherman is very good as David, whilst Mme. Waxman as Miriam, his wife, keeps the ball of fun rolling, and Mr. Stanford acts with characteristic ability as Julius.

Malvina, "just a fiddler," but no ordinary one at that, and the fair executant, in a series of selections classical, operatic and popular, she proves herself a mistress of her art. "The Toreador," "I'll Sing Thee Songs of Araby," and other pieces are played with irresistible charm, vivacity and expression. Frank and Vesta, champion dancers, give a varied exposition of modern step-dances, including the American buck dance, movement dance, in which the lady supplies her own illumination, are gracefully and skilfully executed by Vesta, eccentric dancer (with cigar). "Colim's Rag" and other cute calisthenic exercises are presented by Frank. "Me and My Gal" rag, in which he manipulates a female figure so that it appears to dance vigorously, is a novel introduction, and the pair join in effectively at the end. This capital turn was much applauded.

Keyes and Kodey, who dub themselves "loose pages from the book of fun," and in "The Queen of Palestina" and an amusing imitation of a bluebottle, their personalities are comical. Hedges Bros. and Jacobson, in rag-time, put in some good work, with good rollicking songs and choruses. "Piccanniny" is pretty and quaint, and "Some Day" is most agreeably rendered. Mary Ann Clarke, the dual-voiced vocalist, gives some wonderful contrasts in contralto and soprano singing of operatic selections in a pretty, picturesque scena. "Until," accompanied by herself, is also very well rendered. The Medini Trio, in their well-known wonderful balancing ladder act, complete a strong bill.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

The Five Wartons, rightly described as the world's greatest springboard flyers, provide a most unique and clever entertainment at the Willesden Hippodrome this week. For instance: One man stands on another's shoulders; a chair is then placed on the top man's shoulders; a third member stands on one end of a springboard and another jumps from a high pedestal on to the other end of the springboard with the astonishing result that his companion is flung high in the air, and after performing a couple of somersaults in mid-air seats himself comfortably in the chair. This is only one of their feats, and with a certain amount of the comic element introduced provides a very interesting show.

Scot Gibson, the "Kilted Komis," has a fund of excellent stories which are rattled off in lightning fashion, and his song "A Land Fit for Heroes to Live In," is an excellent one and scores well. The Terry Twins provide much amusement with their argument as to whether the one is the other or vice versa, while their quaint boxing display is one of the funniest of its kind.

Marie Ellerslie, besides singing and dancing, performs some really difficult contortionist feats on top of a grand piano. T. E. Dunville, the popular comedian, has a couple of excellent numbers which suit him very well. Rolf Slater, in a couple of new and original burlesques, including "I Am from Siam," is another favourite item on the programme, while Ruff and Tumble, a shock-headed girl and her male partner, provide a very lively tumbling performance, and Little and Good, two vivacious little ladies, sing, dance, play and chatter in a very amusing and interesting manner. Marie Sylver and Teddy Fox, a couple of artistic entertainers, and some excellent bioscope pictures complete.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

A large audience on Monday last enjoyed with a keen relish the excellent fare Mr. John Hay placed before them. Top of the bill is Jock McKay, and for nearly twenty minutes this funny Scot kept his hearers bubbling over with laughter. He winds up with a capital soldier song. Miss Peggy O'Hara does extremely well with her act at the piano. She opens with her idea of a Parliamentary concert in which the Premier, Sir Robert Horne, Lady Astor, Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Bottomley take part, with some very topical verses. Her song of the "Mummy" type, with a delightful refrain, was also loudly applauded. Miss Doris Harley, of the Billy and Doris Harley duo, wears some charming gowns in the course of their all-too-short act. The male partner has a most amusing number in "Have You Seen My Brother Anywhere?" and the patter of the couple has the merit of originality, their dancing also being clever. Result—repeated recalls. An act new to us is that presented by Julot and Pierre, the former a clown, the latter an Italian tenor. The whimsicalities of Julot afforded the audience intense delight, and their musical selections were also much enjoyed. The Clovelly Girls give their usual clever display of club manipulation, Haig and Escoe are a comedy duo who bring their act to an effective conclusion with a skilful eccentric dance, whilst Lala and Newton, with their comedy wire act, do clever things in a most unostentatious manner. Mr. Mathew Newton, a tenor with a fine range, completes a first-rate programme.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

There is a capital bill at Ilford this week. Cinzano, as a "successful failure," provokes much mirth with his burlesque conjuring item, whilst Herbert La Martine, the originator of the staircase dance, is as welcome as ever. Arthur Jacobson sings, dances, and plays the violin in a very praiseworthy manner, and is followed by Geo. Calver, in his inimitable female impersonations.

The Kenna Brothers, in their humorous airmen act, kept the audience in one constant roar of laughter. Both in the aeroplane and on the trapese they were screamingly funny. Daly and Healy are a couple of clever comedians, and Mr. Hymack mystifies his audience with the weird happenings at "Bogey Villa." That fine vocalist, Miss Ethel Hook, assisted by Mr. Arthur Argent and Miss Edith Page at the piano, is responsible for a most enjoyable musical act. We Three (Susie Belmore, Vera Vere, and Dorothy Belmore), in "Styles and Smiles," were also very popular. They are a fascinating trio, with plenty of dash in them, and well deserved the applause they received.

EAST HAM PALACE.

A varied programme is being submitted here this week. Le Dair, the comedy conjurer, presenting "Magic, Mirth, and a Maid," is particularly successful in entertaining and mystifying his audience. His tricks with rings where he apparently smashes them so that they shall fit into a pistol, created much laughter, followed by speculation as to how the whole affair is worked. The Anartos, Arthur and Laurence, were very successful with their talk, songs, and playing. The item, "Amusing the Baby," went extremely well, while their instrumental duet "Till We Meet Again," won hearty applause. They were called before the curtain.

Bert Maddison cleverly burlesqued an officer in his song, "What Did I Do." In another item with the "assistance" of a lady from a box, he was exceedingly funny. Dudley and Stafford as "The Next Turn," were most amusing. Ethel Castaldini was very entertaining in her songs; Jean Dorane and Sydney Wood gave some clever exhibitions of dancing; and Djira and Bill were funny with bicycle and ladder. Tom Payne and Vera Hilliard, in a burlesque episode, which was delightfully presented, were very popular.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Wilkie Bard is here this week, scoring his usual success with his latest number "The Murder Bureau." The plot allows ample opportunity for the famous comedian to reveal his cleverness, and his dips into his vast fund of humour kept the house constantly amused. Penrose and Whitlock. "Two Old Sports" certainly live and act up to the designation: "Let's be Merry and Bright," "We've had a Jolly Good Night," and other similar items show how keenly these two light-hearted members of the profession are acting as disciples of the Brighter London movement. Their joviality permeated the house, and their reception was tremendous.

Miss Violet King is a violinist and pianist with a new style. She is certainly a musician to her finger tips, but she blends a selection of dainty tit-bits—mazurka, etc.—with popular items like "Loch Lomond," "Omaha," and "Annie Laurie," which the Camberwell audience appreciated thoroughly. Other performances in Mr. Charles Martin's varied programme were Elsie Bartlett; Hal Wright; Woolmer Young; Harry Radford and Eva Valentine, and Dainty Doris. All received their deserved meed of praise. "The Demon of the Cellar," by the Six Brothers Luck, provides a dramatic finale. A feature of the evening was the welcome return after eight weeks' absence of Mr. Richard Crean, the popular conductor of a popular orchestra.

MASKELYNE'S.
"Spirit" Photographs.

Mr. Clive Maskelyne, in collaboration with Mr. Wm. Marriott, the well-known Psychic expert, demonstrated on Monday morning to a gathering of Press representatives, his new show "Spirit Masks and Faces," exemplifying the marvels of electroplasm by means of spirit photographs, and wax moulds of spirit faces. A Clerk in Holy Orders, representative of a contemporary, had furnished himself with a packet of plates and marked them—he sat on an ordinary chair. Mr. Maskelyne took the photograph, and the aforesaid cleric developed the plate, and made a lantern slide thereof. Previously, the medium had entered a closed cabinet, and a member of the audience had selected from a number of cards—written by other members of the audience—William Shakespeare as the spirit to materialise. The cabinet opens—the spirit of the illustrious poet appears, leaves a wax mould of his face behind and disappears. Then the lantern slide is shewn on the screen, and our clerical friend is seen with the spirit of Shakespeare hovering in the background. It is a most marvellous exhibition, and completely mystified the somewhat critical audience on Monday.

This show goes into the ordinary bill here this week, which also includes Luiga Singh, the Royal Indian magician, whose performance we noticed on the occasion of our last visit here. Selwyn Drivers humorous panorations are as funny and clever as ever. Owen Clark, the inventor-magician, in the magicians' rehearsal; The Kobes, Japanese entertainers, and our old friend Griff and his "Nice Dadda," partner complete the programme.

FOR NOTES on FELDMAN NUMBERS See page 20.

"THE PEEP SHOW"
At New Cross Empire.

The first show of the touring version of the Wylie-Tate production from the London Hippodrome, "The Peep Show," met with an enthusiastic reception at the New Cross Empire on Monday evening. Of course, the exigencies of the two houses at night necessitated a liberal use of the blue pencil, but the book, by Lauri Wylie, has not suffered so very severely in the condensing. From the opening scene, "On the Road to London," to the end, "In Main Street," everything went with a swing, and hearty congratulations are due to the company for the manner in which they played up to each other. The dresses, designed by Dolly Tree, were wonderful creations, and will be the talk of the town among the ladies. "On the Road to London," by the entire company, was a rollicking opening number, and put everybody in good humour. For the second "peep" Albert Darnley, as Mr. Deadly Dull, and Mona Vivian, as Miss Cheery Hoe, have a battle of wits for and against a Brighter London, and, needless to say, the lady wins. The third peep was in a magnificent setting, with the Thames Embankment and the Houses of Parliament, and, strange to relate, the Tower Bridge, all in full view. But it was an ideal Embankment, with bathing bungalows and gondolas, and pretty lighting effects. Mark Lupino, on whom the bulk of the funning rests, was absolutely at home in this scene, and the house was in one ripple of laughter the whole time he was "on." He appeared to be working under difficulties, suffering from a cold, but that did not seem to count, for his laughter-raising efforts met with every encouragement. In the fourth "peep," "The Spanish Way," Mark Lupino got roars of laughter from a delighted audience in his quest for a hat in the auditorium and the business with the lady who tries to keep him quiet. One "peep" followed another to a riot of colour and pretty dresses. In the sixth "peep" Mark Lupino, as Henry VIII., Mona Vivian, as Cupid, with Billy Quantrell as a "varlet," in a prettily-set Tower of London scene, were very amusing, and Mona earned a hearty call before the curtain. "The Valley of Echoes," which was the seventh "peep," with its magical changes of costumes, make-up, and scenery, invented by Adrian V. Somoiloff, was a feast of colour, and a dance by Katarina Renoff and Andrew Higginson, in an Eastern scene, with the beautiful surrounding of the corps de ballet, earned an encore. A funny scene by Mark Lupino and Mona Vivian, called "The Piano Next Door," made up the eighth "peep," and caused renewed laughter. A song by Mona Vivian, called "Bimini Bay," gave another excellent opportunity for the ballet, and earned an encore. The tenth and last "peep" was called "Main Street," and served to bring a most successful evening to a close. Where there was such a large cast it is difficult to particularise, but certainly a word must be said for the excellent orchestra under Camille Escuder (for Wylie-Tate), which worked hard and must share in the general praise. Altogether an excellent show, and one which will fill the bill for some time to come.

SIR HARRY LAUDER
At the Pavilion

Sir Harry Lauder moved to the Pavilion on Monday for the remainder of his London season, prior to his world tour of three years. As happens where'er he goes, Sir Harry had a very hearty reception, and had to give song after song. Supporting him was a well-arranged programme of variety items. Most of them were speciality items of a high order. Kelmo, for instance, whose rag and bane barrow conceals a mello-toned xylophone, which he knows how to play well, and Hedjaz Feisul's Seven Whirlwind Arabs, who perform some extraordinary handsprings and other acrobatics.

Then there are the popular cross-talk act, the Mullany Brothers, with their neat and dapper simultaneous dancing, and a further exhibition of the terpsichorean art from Sacha Piatov and Natalie, whilst music lovers will find much to delight their hearts in the item presented by Miss Dorothy Darlington, the well-known violiniste. On the occasion of our visit she included in her work the last movement from Mendelssohn's E Minor Concerto, yeoman assistance being lent by Mr. Maurice Jacobi, and the orchestra, not to forget the special pianiste, Miss Marjorie Parker.

As for Sir Harry's own contributions, they included such old favourites as "Roamin' in the Gloamin'" and "She's ma Daisie," which went like hot cakes. He could not give the audience enough, and the end left them still clamouring for more. The London Pavilion is the hall where Sir Harry made one of his first successes, and he told an "Era" representative that it felt like being "at hame."

DEATH OF CYRIL VAUGHAN DOUGHTY.

It is with regret that we announce the death of Mr. Cyril Vaughan Doughty. As a youngster he was greatly in demand as a comedian and mimic at concerts in and around Watford, where he resided some ten years ago. As a juvenile comic singer and dancer he showed remarkable talent, which he later developed with considerable success in musical comedy. He was the original of Alf the Page in the George Edwardes' production of "Betty," touring with the same play until he was recalled to town to undertake a part at Daly's Theatre, where he remained for upwards of two years. Later he went on tour with "The Arcadians," playing the rôle of Bobby. Just previous to going abroad he was engaged by Arthur Rosebery in "The Silent Watch."

Deceased succumbed to an attack of cholera on May 5 in India, where he was on tour with the late Mr. Bondman's party, which left England last December to fulfil engagements in Egypt and India. Mr. Doughty was only 21 years of age, and deep sympathy will be extended to his mother and relatives in the untimely end of one who, by his genial and cheery disposition, made himself a great favourite with all with whom he worked.

Old English Fair.

Her Majesty Queen Alexandra has graciously granted her patronage to the Old English "Fayre," to be held at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, in aid of the Butchers' Charitable Institution on June 20, 21 and 22. Offers of help will be welcomed by the organising secretary, Mr. Carl Hentschel, 90, High Holborn, W.C.

SONGS AND SINGERS.

Francis and Day.

The laconic wire from Blackpool received by the firm on Tuesday morning of last week which read, "'Wherever You Are' a 'Riot,'" was but a further verification of what had been patent to everyone who had heard John P. Long's new chorus ballad, sung by Dick Henderson, at both the Empress, Brixton, and, the week prior, at the Euston Palace. Mr. Henderson was at the Palace, Blackpool, last week, and night after night the audience showed their appreciation of the number by peremptorarily redemanding "Wherever You Are," which will be numbered among the songs beloved by both Yorkshire and Lancashire for many months to come. Lorna Ray and Frank Cass will be heard in the number at their respective engagements by the time these lines are in print.

Agnes York, at the Palace, Plymouth, has been delighting her hearers with those new ballads, "If I Have You Beside Me" and "Love Makes the World Worth While," numbers that suit her cultured style to a nicety.

Daisy Taylor, at Camberwell Palace last week, scored a hit with the new song, "You Never Grow Too Old for Mammy's Kisses," which the artist made her concluding number.

Bob Bevens, of "Rose Petals" company, is scoring with the new song entitled "If You've Got any Good in Your Heart."

"Queen of the Oojah Isles," Weston and Lee's hit, has been going great in the hands of that delightful artist, Elsie Bower, on tour, as, too, has "Chili Bean."

Fred Barnes, at the London Alhambra, is repeating his success with both "Weep No More" and "Li'l Old Granny Mine," items that suit his distinctive style, and never fail to elicit great applause.

"Pucker Up and Whistle," sung in "The Fun Shop" by Freda Francis, has greatly pleased its hearers at Woolwich and elsewhere.

Florrie Forde is at the Grand, Birmingham, continuing her triumphs with "I Love the Night-time," a chorus number from the pen of John P. Lony, who has just supplied, by the way, a new song to Jay Laurier entitled "Let's Don't!" which, in the ordinary course of events, will be published by the firm.

Lura and Kaley, the Chattering Schoolgirls, were heard to great advantage recently at the London, Shoreditch, in "Queen of the Oojah Isles."

Alfred Jepson, at Rochdale Hippodrome, is charming all and sundry by his tasteful rendering of "Li'l Old Granny Mine."

"Peggy O'Neil" is going strong and well at such far-apart places as the Empire, Edinburgh, the Grand, Hanley, and the Hippodrome, Brighton, the singers respectively being Victor King, Nolan and Holt and Marjorie Fulton. Miss Fulton is likewise making a big hit with "Sunshine Bay," and is adding the funny "My Basuto Baby" to her repertory.

Fred Morris's sonorous voice is well suited with "When I Lost You, Mother of Mine," a number that is going very big this week at the Exeter Hippodrome.

At Boscombe Herbert Lee is making his usual hit with both "The More I See of 'Em" and "It's Nothing to Do With You (January, February)."

The interest in the tuneful "Mello 'Cello" shows no sign of abatement judging by the manner in which it is being received at Leeds Empire (the Femina Quartette), the Wigan Hippodrome (Milano Four), and the London Coliseum (Minstrels of 1922).

Lucille Benstead's sweet voice is just now charming Southport, her singing of "I Shall Remember Your Kisses" calling forth spontaneous applause.

Gertie Gitana, at Glasgow, is winning all hearts by her arch rendering of "Pucker Up and Whistle."

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

Miss Lucille Benstead continues to create much enthusiasm with Worton David and Horatio Nicholls' new number, "Golden Dreamboat." This number bids fair to eclipse some of the previous winners from the pens of these two writers.

"Rainbow," which has been chosen by the "Daily Sketch" for their big valse competition number for 1922, is another outstanding success. Miss Ethel Castaldini is proving very successful at the Palace, East Ham, this week with it. She is also featuring "Sally," an outstanding chorus hit. Fred Barnes, who is playing the Alhambra this week, is also scoring a big success with "Sally."

At the Palace, Leicester, this week, Stanelli and Douglas make a decided hit with "Sally," and also find "Wild and Woolly," and "Allah," winners.

Fred Morris scores everywhere with "Sally," while "Masks and Faces" always secures him hearty applause.

Hal Wright, at the Palace, Camberwell, this week, is featuring a new comedy number, "Let's Have a Song About Rhubub," also a new ballad number entitled "Let's Start All Over Again," both proving tremendously popular.

Ernie Mayne, at the Palace, Camberwell, is singing his two comedy chorus numbers, "Hello! Old What's-a-Name" and "What D'yer Think of That?" both being instantaneous hits.

Alf E. Dodds' "Dixie Minstrels" are scoring with "Tell Me That Story of Old Missouri," and, wiring from Dewsbury last week, they say that this was an instantaneous success and a real winner.

Miss Jean Andrews, who is playing Holborn Empire this week, is making a hit with "The Night of the Ball," Worton David and Horatio Nicholls' new valse ballad.

Riley's Wonders, at the Palace, Walthamstow, are making a big success with "Give Me a Million Beautiful Girls," a number which is also being featured in "Oh! Laugh" with much success.

A new ballad which Miss Wynne Hulme finds a winner at the Hippodrome, Woolwich, this week is "That's How the World was Made." This is also featured by Miss Ethel Castaldini at East Ham, and promises to develop into a solid standard ballad, it having a most appealing lyric.

"The Memory of a Song" continues to be enormously popular, and applications for orchestral parts of this number continue to pour in. This week it is proving a winner in "Sammy in Society" at the Hippodrome, Nottingham. It is featured by Miss Gertrude Kaye.

The Jay Girls, at the Empress, Brixton, produced a new act on Monday night, their closing number being "Wake Me Up When We Get to Alabamy," with which they scored an instantaneous success.

Herbert le Martine is dancing to Horatio Nicholls' big new valse number, "Cuckoo's Call." This week he is at the Holborn Empire.

At the Empire, Leeds, Cole and Robbins gain hearty applause for their rendering of "I've Got the Sweetest Mammy," which is always a sure winner.

MACTAVISH AND HILL.
At Aldershot Hippodrome.

MacTavish and Hill, the Scotsman and his coloured friend, made a decided hit at the Aldershot Hippodrome on Monday night, and were twice called before the curtain by a delighted audience. MacTavish is the first variety artist to appear on any stage in this class of entertainment with a coloured partner, and on Monday Hill rejoined his friend after a tour in America, and in the act which they produced originally at the Empress Music Hall, Brixton, in 1919, but their best hit was undoubtedly the stump speech which, with many happy gags, should carry this clever brace of comedians very far.

Others who made a great hit were Miss Marie Kendal, comedienne, who took no fewer than four curtains before the audience would cease to part company with her; the O'Connor Girls, Irish entertainers, did splendidly in Irish song lore and chorus numbers; Sadler and Elsie were seen to advantage in a series of wonderful quick change episodes, and Terry and Pat Temple, entertainers, and the Paulton Trio, the aerial football cyclists, all went to form a very first-rate evening's entertainment.

"SUNBEAMS."

Revue in Seven Rays, Presented by W. S. Lyon at the Balham Hippodrome on Monday, May 15.

There is plenty of good comedy in "Sunbeams," and a wealth of excellent singing and dancing numbers. A series of beautiful stage pictures also contribute to the success. Miss Nita Jarche's fine voice is heard in several numbers, notably "Crooning" and "Good-Night, Dearie," with Mr. Stewart Castle, and "Red, White and Blue" with Miss Tonie Ford. Miss Jarche has charm and personality, and displays versatility in "Impressions of Italian Life" with Mr. Murray Mills. Mr. Fred Fields keeps the audience in merry mood all the time he faces the footlights, and Messrs. Murray Mils and Arthur Carney give able assistance in the comedy scenes and score with some clever dances, particularly their "tipsy" dance. Miss Tonie Ford, a vivacious comedienne, does well in her opening number, "Whistle Your Cares Away," and "Sally," in the Fourth Ray. Mr. Stewart Castle, a light comedian, sings well "That's How I Believe in You" and other numbers. Mr. Jim Pitman, Miss May Barrie, and a good-looking chorus complete the cast.

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DAILY SKETCH

THE PREMIER PICTURE PAPER.

PRIVATE TELEGRAMS: "DISKETCH, LONDON."
NEWS TELEGRAMS: "DAILY SKETCH, LONDON."

In your Reply please refer to: J.T.

SHOE LANE, LONDON, E.C. 4

28th. April. 1922.

Lawrence Wright, Esq.,
Messrs. The Lawrence Wright Music Pub.Co.,
8. Denmark Street,
Charing Cross Road.
LONDON E.C.2.

Dear Mr. Wright,

In view of the many pleasing comments and congratulations that have been received I feel I ought to write and express my gratification at the wonderful reception accorded to the "RAINBOW" Waltz, in which I consider Mr. Horatio Nicholls has surpassed all his previous successes.

Last year, the "Silver Star" proved a tremendous success, but I feel certain, in view of the enthusiasm that the "Rainbow" Waltz created when it was played, and the steps demonstrated, at the Blackpool Tower this Easter, that we are justified in looking to the future with even greater optimism.

With the view to furthering the success which has already been gained, we intend to give it wide and immediate publicity in the Hulton Press, which includes the "Evening Chronicle", "Daily Dispatch", "Daily Sketch", "Sunday Chronicle", "Empire News", etc.,

Already remarkable tributes have been paid to the "Rainbow" Waltz and Steps by prominent Dance Teachers throughout the Kingdom and the demand for instruction is very great.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

E. HULTON & CO. LTD.,

C. Taylor

Director.

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, MAY 22, 1922.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR JUNE 12 NOW DUE.

ALBANY WARD THEATRES, LTD. Note.—Rehearsal at all theatres at 1 p.m. All artists must attend.

CIRENCESTER PICTURE HOUSE.—Jackson Potter's concert party, Variorum.

SALISBURY PALACE.—Carlton Fredricks' company in "Little Babette."

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—W. Ellis Black's company in "Omar Hassam."

YEOVIL PALACE.—Lynn and Hamilton, Fred Lamp.

RAYMOND Continental Tour.

BAWN CIRCUIT.

EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Brothers Hanaway present, "Oh! I!" revue.

RAMSGATE PAVILION (rehearsal, 12).—Spalding and Vanguard, and company as booked.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Bros. Wheatley.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—G. and J. Kirby present "The Circus Queen."

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE.—Carlton Wallace's Repertoire Co.

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—W. and P. Productions present "All Put."

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Palmyra Goss Trio, Jack Topp.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE (rehearsal, 12).—Cromo and Hamilton present "Go as You Please."

WEST BROMWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—Miss Ivy Maurice Rep. Co.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

(See page 19.)

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES, LTD

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Minstrels of 1922.

CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Slingsby presents "Oh, Laugh!"

CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Percy Honri, Penrose and Whitlock, Hymack, Jean Andrews, Hal Wright, The Highleys, Five Westons.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Stagpole and Spier, Lucille Benstead, Johnson Clark, Stradus and Dolly, Audrey Knight, The McNaughtons, The Eldons, Ernie Roma.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Ernie Mayne, George Calver, Rolf Slater, A. Jacobsen.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Nelson Jackson, Harry Bedford, The Highleys, Horace Hunter and Co., Silver and Fox, Billy Rennett.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Fred Barnes, Six Brothers Luck, Fred Russell, Lake and Barrasford, Billy Simpson.

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—J. F. Worsley presents "Blue Birds."

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Day presents "New Jingles."

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). Lewis Waller presents "Afgar."

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Tucker, The Grumblers, Rolf Slater, Niblo and Laura, Elsie Bartlett, Kenna Brothers, Daly and Healy.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Ernie Mayne, Esta Stella, We Three, Daly and Healy, Yamayama Troupe, Lake and Barrasford.

THE PALLADIUM.—"Rockets."

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Andrew Melville presents "The Savage and the Woman."

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—T. E. Dunville, Nella Allen, Byron and Byron, Woolmer Young, Rene and Godfrey, Ruff and Tumble, O'Neil and Thayer.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

(Rehearsal at all halls at 12 o'clock.)

BLACKBURN.—Archie Pitt presents "Mr. Tower of London."

BRADFORD.—H. T. Snelson presents "The Kinema Kid."

BURNLEY.—Alfonzo, Dudley Dale, Frank Melvin, Terry Wilson, Ivy de Verne, The Jays, Mario Lorenzi, and company as booked.

CARLISLE.—Edward Cooke presents "There You Are Then."

HALIFAX.—Osborne Trio, Ally Benson, Lily Langtry, Three Bros. Huxter, Symphonia, J. Wray.

HUDDERSFIELD.—The Poppescus, Hal Bryan, Hanlon Bros., Dolce Cariello, Laline, Willy Wally, Tom Williams.

LEICESTER.—Company as booked.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Harry Russell's revue, "Bright and Breezy."

WARRINGTON.—Will Hay and Co., Jack Barker, "Lady in Black," V. M. Gaston, Felovis, Doris Gaskell.

RAYMOND Touring France.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11.30).—George Wilbey, Adam Tomlinson, Romaine and Temple, The Apollo Trio, Marie Lloyd, The Great Lester, Agda and Jim.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Rich. Hayes, Ray Wallace, Nicol and Martin, Burr and Hope, St. Juste and Higgins, Syd Moorhouse, Tubby Turner.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—George Bolton and Partner, Basil King.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12.15).—Charles and Billy Hartley, Oswald Bemand, Bert Errol, Kharum, Cruikshank, Christy and Willis, The Reegoes.

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Fred Karno presents "1922." Cast includes Fred Kitchen, Marie Blanche, &c.

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—George Lee, The Five Petleys, King and Benson, Roxy La Rocca, Cornalla and Eddie, The Royal Merry Four, Haydn Wood and Dorothy Court.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Megan Brothers, Jack Pleasants, El. Stevenson, Four Swifts, Tom Clare, Gus Fowler, Daisy Taylor.

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—George Shurley's company in "The Futurists."

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 11).—Olga Katzin and Hugh Miller Repertory Company, Alan Brooks and Co., Lillian Burgiss, Gaston Palmer, Morvana, O'Brien and Lady.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 11).—The Anglo-Scottish Revue Co. present "What a Night."

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Zellini, Arthur and Lawrence Anarto, Elsie Bower, Milton Hayes, W. H. Squire, Lily Fairney and Auriol Jones, The Three Laurels, Donald MacKay.

HANLEY GRAND THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Bella and Morris, Franco Piper, Winston's Water Lions and Diving Nymphs, Dorothy McBlain, Frederic Culpitt, Teddy Stream, Brothers Woltman.

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Herbert Cave, Gilly and Jenny, Gertie Gitana, Mlle. Terpsichore, Jack Barty, Graham and Cullen, Bert Elliott and Doris Bruston.

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Henry Martinez and Co., Winifred Ward, Katrina and Joan, G. S. Melvin, Lily Morris, Fortunello and Cirillino, George D'Albert.

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Windsor Troupe, Chris Richards, Finlay Dunn, Hetty King, Victor King, Irene Penso, The Flying Banvards.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—Messrs. Foster and Murray present "All in One," Jay Laurier, Miro, Charles Perezoff and Co., Ben Beyer, Wallie Pearce.

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—Moss Empires, Ltd., present the Wylie-Tate production, "Round in Fifty."

NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Hedges Brothers and Jacobson, White, Black and Useless, Will Tyler, Stanley Logan presents "The Poor Rich," Hanlon Charles Troupe, Bromley Carter, The Pall Malls.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Claude Gardner, Artemas, Florrie Forde, John, Harry and Burton Lester, Hart and O'Brien, The D'Ormondes, Les Vieviaris.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Robertys, Christine Roy, Eric C. Peacock, Wal Langfry, Johnson and Bert, Austin Fudd, Pat and Joan.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Dolly Elsworthy, T. Elder Hearn, The Jovers, The Two Ascots, Haig Brothers and Ryan, De Alma, Mayne and Sheridan.

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Murray King and Clark present "Romance."

SALFORD PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—W. Griffiths presents "The Musical Romance," Joe O'Gorman, The Krakes, Vanwy Chard, Alf. Jepson, Les Tumilet.

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Les Bastiens, Eddie Gray, Lillian Barnes, Ernie Lotriga and Co. in "The Plotters," Howard Rogers, Lily Long, Loch and Lomond.

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Anna and Louis, Boy Ronald, Four Williams, Zetta Mor, Femina Quartette, Tom D. Newell.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Lew Lake's company in "Splinters."

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Wylie-Tate production, "The Peepshow."

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Day's company in "Rockets."

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—"Bran Pie." Cast includes the Two Bobs, &c.

VICTORIA PALACE (rehearsal, 11.30).—Margaret Cooper, Bert Levy, Daisy Wood, Olga Morselli, Billy McDermott, Bert Groves, Masu and Turi, Bart and Edie.

STOLL TOUR.

(See page 19.)

RAYMOND London Shortly.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Ringle Bros., Clarke and Wallace, Wilson Hallett, L'Incognita and Amadio, Marjorie Fulton, Hayden and Nevard, Arthur Ferris.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Spangles."

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Pins and Needles."

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Jennie Benson, Langleys, May Henderson, Kadex Troupe, Clarkson Rose, Carr Lynn, Edwin Lawrence.

MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11).—"The League of Notions."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Garden of Allah."

PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Period commencing May 19, 1922. Adams and Lee, Grock and Partner, Mimi, Four Sisters Martelloni, Charlton, Cornelius and Constance, Saschoff Troupe, Vorelle, Togan and Geneva.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Gene Gerrard, Halma, Claude Anderson, Fulgora, Dorothy Lena, Axel Mirano, Albert Whelan.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—George and Butcher, Mutt and Jeff, Barry Burnett, Meredith and Adnil, Victoria Carmen, Whit Cunliffe, Gordon Finlay.

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—"Barebacks."

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Jack of all Trades."

WOLVERHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Lee White and Clay Smith, John Luxton, Syd Walker, George Pickett and Co., Foster Kershaw, and company as booked.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Pattman, Shirley and Ransome, Woodhouse and Wells, Rene and Partner, Norman Court.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Lacan and McShane, Syd Sydney, Daros, Hall and Menzies.

ATTERCLIFFE PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Barnes Bros. and Watson, Freddie Frome and Partner, Bobbie Burns, Betty and Billy Burne, Norman White.

PATH PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—"An Irish Maid" revue.

BRIDLINGTON SPA.—Catlin's Pierrots.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—David Poole, Haley's Juveniles, Mack Coney, Edna Maude.

DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Herbert Wellesley's revue, "The Buccaneer."

EDINBURGH THEATRE ROYAL (rehearsal, 12).—Fred Collins' "Keep Guessing" revue.

EXETER HIPPODROME.—Elkins, Fay and Elkins, O'Shea Girls and Terry, Jim Nolan, Evaldo and Barton, Frank Maura, Ray an dEvans.

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Bernard Hishin presents "The Young Person in Pink."

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.45).—Mr. Walter W. Ellis presents "A Week-end."

LLANDUDNO PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 2).—"Footlight Frolics."

LUTON PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Mamie Soutter and Partner, Jock Harris, Mackie and Cecil, The Alexander Opera Six.

MAIDSTONE PALACE (band call, 1.30).—Maurice Betrams Co. in "No Limit."

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Carmo, Bert Symes, Charlieri Bros., Miller and Phlora.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Walter Passmore and Fred Wright, in "Tit-Bits."

PETERBOROUGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—George Mozart, Selig and Hart, The Bohemian Trio, Jack Boot, Edward Victor, Maud Hughes Ivy and Jack.

READING PALACE THEATRE.—Joe Morrison's revue, "Zig-Zag."

SHOREDITCH (LONDON).—Manny and Roberts, Billy and Doris Harley, Kearns and Jillson, Lala and Newton, Billie Val and Partner, Jephson and Duharrie, Lyn and Lynda, &c.

WALHAM GREEN GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).—Laveen and Cross, Daly and Marr, Renaud, The Bochams, Franklin Bros., Dorothy Vaughan and Mimi Clift, Geo. De Wafaz and Co., Pathe.

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METROPOLITAN.

One of the best comedy sketches seen for some time on the halls is "Deliriums," with the inimitable Jimmy Jewel and company. It is in six bouts, and describes the adventures of one Jimmy Shirket, a much hen-pecked husband, who falls asleep in his kitchen, and dreams that he goes to Cairo, where he is followed and arrested for drowning his wife. He is then taken to prison, and finally to the gallows, where he is saved from hanging by the appearance of his wife, who only fell in the brook! In all the scenes Jimmy Jewel is excellent. He is a comedian with a rare style and a rare sense of humour. In his scene in the prison he proved himself to be a fine actor as well as a comedian. He is well supported by his company, and the piece is cleverly staged, and had a hearty reception.

Lyons and Fay, just comedians, were as good as ever, with new patter and a new song entitled "Woman." Nora Moore and Elsie Roby, the repartee girls, were extremely popular. They have some clever songs and humorous patter, and Elsie Roby is a comedienne with a style entirely her own. Bessie Mason, vocalist, sang "I Hear You Calling Me" with charm, and also another good number. Dick Tubb, as usual, brought the house down with his amazing songs and his even more amazing facial contortions. His numbers included "He's Gone" and "Bananas," both very funny. His last, attired as a young and coy lady, dealt with the names of various towns, and is a big winner. Jenkins Brothers, grotesque knockabout acrobats, gave a very humorous turn. The bill was concluded with Rosso and Lar Mairsky, Parisian dancers, and the Lisbens, wonders on wheels, including Leoni, the human top.

THE QUEST FOR THE ROPE TRICK

Fruitless Search in the East.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten is now back from his travels in the East, whither he sailed last October in search of the elusive Indian Rope Trick, and has returned more firmly convinced than ever that the trick is a myth.

Mr. Macnaghten's first investigations were made in Ceylon, and they proved quite unproductive. He then travelled all through Bengal, spending a month in the indigo districts of Tirhoot. Here he met, in charge of a sugar factory, a European who gave his word that 15 years back he had seen the rope thrown into the air and the magician's assistant climb the unsupported rope and disappear from view.

From the indigo districts Mr. Macnaghten returned to Calcutta, and was present at all the functions, both native and European, given in honour of the visit of the Prince of Wales. Dancers and entertainers of all kinds from all parts of India gave of their best for the edification of H.R.H., but nothing approaching the rope trick was produced.

"I made all inquiries possible in Burma with no results," writes Mr. Macnaghten, "but to my surprise, on arrival at Bhano, a distance of 1,012 miles up the Irrawaddy River, and practically on the Chinese boundary, I met a native who assured me that he had seen the trick done and gave me the fullest details, which were rather amusing in that, according to my informant, the boy ascended the rope, was duly followed and attacked by the magician, dismembered in mid-air, the arms, legs, head, and other fragments falling to earth in the orthodox prescribed manner. When the performer came down the rope after completing his bloody task, however, he was unable to finish the performance by reconstructing the dismembered body, with the result that he (the magician) and my informant (one of the audience) fled precipitately from the scene, fearing arrest by the police.

"I am more confident than ever that the performance, as historians relate, and some travellers describe, has never been done. I do, however, believe that on certain rare occasions individuals have been hypnotised into thinking they have seen the performance done. The native above referred to, I am sure, was sincere and really believed he had witnessed the butchery of a small boy in the circumstances described, and the sugar factory manager was also, I am sure, confident that he had seen the rope trick performed, and told me what he did in perfectly good faith."

Dolce Cariello.

Appearing just now on the Macnaghten Tour, Dolce Cariello, the Anglo-Italian vocalist, has been meeting with wonderful success. This week Dolce is taking a brief holiday at Waddington, near Clitheroe, and next week resumes at the Palace, Huddersfield.

Doris Ashton.

Since Doris Ashton recently returned from a most successful two weeks at the Alhambra, Paris—when she gave her songs in Italian and French—she has had other offers for the Continent. We shall, however, probably see Doris back in the West End shortly, if present negotiations are concluded and her provincial dates are postponed.

Pearl Mitchell and Sister.

At the Hippo., Rotherhithe, next week that clever young vicliniste Pearl Mitchell and her sister will make their first appearance in town since they returned from South Africa recently.

Congratulations.

On Saturday last, at Birmingham, the wife of Mr. Phillip E. Giles, formerly assistant manager at the local Empire, and now at the Empire, Newport, presented her husband with a bonnie baby girl.

"FORTUNES OF EILEEN."

Play, in Seven Scenes, by Frank Price. Produced for the First Time in London at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on Friday, May 5.

John Duncan ..... Rhys Meredith
Brandon Carew ..... Victor Gammon
Dr. Henry Monks .... James MacIntosh
Martin Gubbins ... Mr. W. H. Irving
Mrs. Rachel Gresham ... Alvina Mining
Muriel Gresham ..... Quiller Valerie
Phyllis Peck ..... Gertrude Vickers
Eileen Duncan ....., Dot Stephens

John Duncan, the blind father of Eileen, risks arrest on a charge of murdering his wife in order to be reunited with his daughter. His sister-in-law, Mrs. Rachel Gresham, who has been doing very well on Eileen's allowance, connives with Dr. Henry Monks to get Eileen away, and she takes advantage of Duncan's blindness to put her daughter Muriel, who she tells him is dead, in Eileen's place. Dr. Henry Monks is all too ready to fall in with the plan for getting Eileen away, for he is playing a double game, his object being to win both Eileen and her father's fortune. A lover of Eileen, Brandon Carew, frustrates the attempt at impersonation, and in this task is staunchly supported by Martin Gubbins and Phyllis Peck, Eileen's friend.

Mr. Rhys Meredith was a cleverly pathetic figure as the blind father, whilst Miss Dot Stephens won all hearts in the rôle of Eileen Duncan. Mr. James McIntosh as Dr. Henry Monks was an ingratiating villain; Miss Alvina Mining as Mrs. Rachel Gresham was an engaging traitress, and Miss Quiller Valerie was impressive as Muriel Gresham. Mr. Victor Gammon created a favourable impression as Brandon Carew, whilst some good work was put in by Miss Gertrude Vickers as Phyllis Peck and Mr. W. H. Irving as Martin Gubbins.

COON SINGER'S SUCCESS.

Leslie Barker at the Victoria Palace.

A decided success was made by Mr. Leslie Barker, the coon-singer and dancer at the Victoria Palace last week. For one thing, Mr. Barker has been careful to provide himself with the essentials for a turn of his type. His special set is picturesque in the right style—a vision of the "Swannee River," with the all-important moon much in evidence—his numbers are unfailingly mellifluous, and his attire spick and span. He starts with a cheery song "Back to Caroline," which includes some nimble dancing, follows with a more wistful ditty "Why Do I Sigh?" and concludes with a clever character song "At Break of Day." His powerful and clear voice, pleasant personality and extraordinary agile dancing, are much in evidence throughout, and it was not surprising that, at the end there was applause of the most insistent type. Mr. Barker appearing and bowing his acknowledgments in front of "the tabs."

BIRMINGHAM SHAKESPERIAN SEASON.

Mr. Henry Baynton's Shakespearian season at Birmingham Prince of Wales' Theatre continues to attract attention. Last year's season was highly successful. His "Hamlet" was a sound performance, touched with the zest and doubts of youth, and the hesitancy of the introspective thinker. In "Romeo and Juliet," Mr. Baynton vividly portrayed the impetuousness of youth aflame in passionate love. Miss Alice de Grey was excellent, apart from the kittenish side, and Miss Gertrude Gilbert made a loving old nurse. In "The Merchant of Venice," Miss de Grey spoke musically as Jessica, while Mr. Baynton's Shylock was a study in revenge for wrongs done, which was coloured by a human element. "King Lear," always a difficult play, enabled Mr. Baynton to show his tremendous reserve of vocal capability. The Cordelia of Miss de Grey was in every way a worthy one. Monday's performance of "Macbeth" was a triumph for Miss Gilbert. Mr. Baynton's depiction of the murderer's horror after the accomplishment of the end was a magnificent piece of acting and elocution, and not overdone. Mr. Murray Kinnell's Banquo was excellent, and Mr. Kenneth Wickstud's porter and witch were alike good studies.

Harry Ford Retained in South Africa.

The popular comedian, Harry Ford, should have been home from Africa ere this, but, writing from Pretoria under date of April 25 last, Hary tells us that owing to his success out there he has been retained for two or three weeks longer, but will be back here to open at the Empire, Leeds, on June 5. Harry reports wonderful weather and ideal bathing, added to which he was sharing company at Pretoria with Duncan and Godfrey at the Grand Theatre, so he was indeed happy in the surroundings. Harry confesses that he is a bit homesick, though he appears to have had a most enjoyable time in the Colonies.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The Committee acknowledge with many thanks £1 1s. each annual subscription from Mrs. Chas. Coborn and Mrs. Kharum, also a parcel of clothing from Miss Hilda Elen.

Forget-Me-Not Day.

During the past week the Guild have received many offers of help, but there are still good positions in the West End and the City waiting to be filled by variety artists, either ladies or gentlemen. The Committee will be glad to see any artist at the Guild offices, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C., with a view to enlisting their services.

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NOTICE TO ARTISTES.
There are a few vacancies for our Front page Portrait spaces.
Details and rates—which include cost of block—may be obtained on application to
The Advertisement Manager.

Gilbert Dechelette.

This week, at the Empire, Dewsbury, Gilbert Dechelette, the eminent pianist, has made a wonderful impression with the patrons at this house, and has received many offers for immediate dates in the North. On Monday week Dechelette reappears in town at the Palmadium, Palmer's Green, and the following week will resume the Moss' Tour at New Cross.

GLEANINGS FROM FILMLAND.

"A Dangerous Adventure."
This is a fine example of the serial pictures, three episodes of which were shown to the Press and trade on Friday afternoon last at the Oxford Theatre. It is a thrilling story of adventure and intrigue, the locale being the heart of the African jungle, the wild animals and equally wild savage tribes playing a prominent part in the progress of the story.

The principals include the famous serial actress Grace Darmond, who is ably supported by Derelys Perdue, Philo McCullough, Robert Agnew, Jack Richardson and Omar Whitehead. A volcano eruption resulting in an earthquake is a feature.

"The Four Seasons."
Ideal Films, Ltd., announce that they have acquired the beautiful pictures recently shown privately to the trade and known as "The Four Seasons." The pictures show in a most beautiful manner the procession of the seasons, with the green fields as the stage, and the vegetable and animal world as its unconscious actors. The subject is developed with wonderfully poetic charm, and will form a novel attraction in all the cinemas in the country.

Raleigh King Productions
Mr. Raleigh King announces the completion of his new film, "Creation," which has been made entirely at Torquay under the direction of Mr. Humberstone Wright.

In the quietude of the Devonshire countryside, the artists have been at work in a studio, making a film called "Creation." The studio, which has housed the Raleigh King Company, is like a miniature English Hollywood, for once in the studio grounds the artists practically lived in this film colony until the film was finished.

Britons' Chance on the Screen
The British screen is notoriously monopolised to a large extent by foreign celebrities. In order to give Britons a better chance, Ideal Films, Ltd., are about to issue a series of interesting one-reel pictures, entitled "Our Own People." Representative men and women, not merely in the upper ranks of society, but in all stations, are included in the series, and form, together, a remarkable reflection of the national life. The profits of the series are being given to the British Legion.

A Busy Producer.
M. Louis Mercanton, of the Societe des Films Mercanton, is about to embark on the big task of producing three important films, the scenes of which will be laid and acted in three different countries, in six months. He is at the present moment in Algiers, where, on May 1, he made a start on a film entitled "Sarati the Terrible," from a novel of that name by Jean Vignaud, dealing in a measure with the underworld of Algiers.

Having finished that, M. Mercanton crosses into Spain, where he will film the story of "In the Gardens of Murcia," which achieved considerable success on the New York stage last year under the title of "Spanish Love."

Finally, on his return to France, he is to make an interesting film, founded on a story by a celebrated French author, the scenes of which are laid in and around Paris.

Tom Reynolds in New Role.
Tom Reynolds, one of our foremost comedians, who played leading parts in many of the Granger-Samuelson films, will shortly be seen in the new Granger-Davidson film, "A Bachelor's Baby," a straight comedy, which has been produced by Arthur Rooke from the novel by Rolf Bennett. The humour of Mr. Reynolds is irresistible, and as Captain Rogers, in this delightful comedy, he scores a great triumph.

Pioneer Film Agency's Enterprise.
The identity of the firm who are behind Miss Peggy Hyland in her endeavour to prove that successful film producing can be achieved just as well by women as by men is no longer a secret. The company is the Pioneer Film Agency, one of the oldest renting houses in the trade. The comedies which Miss Hyland is not only producing but starring in are being produced at the Windsor Studios, Catford, and she has gathered around her a company of experienced artists, including Gibson Gowland, who so impressively played the prominent part of the Alpine Guide in "Blind Husbands"; Donald Searle, who made such a hit in "Four Men in a Van"; and Alban Atwood, who needs no introduction. Her camera man is W. Blakeley, one of the most experienced of his craft from America.

An Eskimo Picture.
Mauritz Stiller, the Swedish biograph producer, whose "Guarded Lips," with Jenny Hasselqvist in the leading rôle, is being shown by the Gaumont Company, Ltd., this week, is now in Lapland, making a picture in which Eskimos will play natural rôles, and a great herd of between five and six thousand reindeer will appear as "crowd." This is the first time a picture has been made in Lapland or anywhere so far north, and Lapland's speciality—blinding snowstorms—will provide some of the thrills in the picture.

Cinema Manager's New Appointment.
Mr. Fred Fairleigh, late manager of the Super Cinema, Watford, on Monday took over the management of the Theatre de Luxe, Norwich. During the time Mr. Fairleigh has been in Watford he has, by his cheery disposition, genial manner, and courtesy, made a host of friends amongst those who patronised his cinema, and he has received many messages of congratulation on his new appointment.

"Dead Man's Love."
This British 5-reel drama, featuring Miss M. A. Feriel, Bertram Burleigh and Georges Jacquet, is a thrilling melodramatic film adaptation of Mr. Tom Gallon's novel, and was shown to an invited audience at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Wednesday last. A particularly fine scene shows how an unscrupulous and mercenary guardian of a pretty young woman uses his power of hypnotism to lure her to a tragic end—only checkmated in the nick of time by the hero, an escaped and fugitive convict, finely impersonated by Mr. Bertram Burleigh. The acting all round, and production as a whole, are admirable.

Sequel to "Kissing Cup's Race."
The new Walter West production is now well on the way to completion, and full advantage has been taken of the weather by Mr. West during the past few days. Violet Hopson played the leading part, with Stewart Rome opposite her, and Cameron Carr in the other important part. The story is written round the Derby, and Mr. West plans to take his whole company to Epsom at the end of the month to play scenes with the actual Derby crowd as a background.

Evelyn Brent Better.
Her many film friends will be glad to know that Evelyn Brent is making a good recovery from her recent attack of pneumonia. Miss Brent is now recuperating at a nursing home in the Surrey hills. She hopes to return to London within the next few weeks.

Kenelm Foss on the Sick List.
Kenelm Foss, the well-known film producer, has been laid up with pneumonia for the past week, and he is not yet able to attend to business, although he is progressing favourably. Mr. Foss recently made arrangements for the film début of Maurice Moscovitch in "The Beloved Vagabond," and plans to commence work on his new programme directly he has recovered.

For South Africa.
The I.V.T.A. inform us that Miss Molly Adair and Mr. Arthur Pusey left by the s.s. Kinfauns Castle on Friday, the 12th inst., for Johannesburg, under contract with the African Film Productions, Ltd., to play the grown-up Emmeline and Dick in the picturisation of Mr. H. de Vere Stacpoole's famous romance, "The Blue Lagoon." The more important scenes of the film will in all probability be taken in tropical country near South or West Africa (possibly the coral-reefed coast of Mauritius or the Seychelle Islands).

CARPENTIER-LEWIS FIGHT.

A more disappointing exhibition than the Carpentier-Lewis fight for the heavy-weight Championship of Europe could hardly be imagined. The antecedents of Kid Lewis promised that he would give the Frenchman a hard fight, and many good judges ranged themselves on his side in the belief that "it's dogged as does it" would once again be exemplified. In the result the contest, which lasted less than three minutes, resolved itself into a series of clinches, in which the figure of the referee seemed more conspicuous than that of the contestants, the one blow worthy of the occasion, a lightning thrust to the jaw delivered by Carpentier, finishing the business.

As will be realised, the incidents of such a fight afford but slight ground on which to build a satisfactory film, but Messrs. Pathé, who showed a reproduction at their private theatre on Friday morning, have made the best use of their opportunities, the leading incidents of the contest being faithfully recorded. The pictures showing the respective champions in training are very interesting.

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ENTERTAINMENT FINANCE.

An Idle Week.

ANOTHER CINEMA FAILURE.

There has been very little business again this week in Cinema and Music Hall shares. Stoll Picture Production 8 per cent. Part Pref. at 12s. 6d. are certainly cheap—while the Picture Theatre 8½ per cent. Pref. at 18s. 3d. do not appear overvalued, taking into consideration that for year ending November, 1921, this company paid 12½ per cent. on its ordinary capital.

In Music Halls, Coliseum Syndicates are offered at 2½, and the 7 per cent. B Pref. at 15s. This company has paid 25 per cent. for the last nine years—in three of which it also paid a substantial bonus. Drury Lanes are offered small at 20s., at which price they appear a good purchase, in view of the fact that the alteration and redecorating expenses were paid out of the reserves, and also that the new production is filling the house, and is likely to continue to do so. The capital is only £125,000, in £1 shares, fully paid.

Victoria Palace shares are offered at 19s. 6d. For the last three years this company has paid 25 per cent. on its capital of £120,000 in 10s. shares. London Pavilions changed hands between 2 and 2½, with the Preference steady at 3 middle. It is interesting to note that here, as in the case of the Alhambra, the hall is going back to a variety programme. L.T.V. ordinary were ⅛, and the Pref. firm at 9/16. Despite the disappointment caused by the retention of the entertainment tax, there are not many shares on offer in the market, and consequently the prices quoted often give a rather wide margin for the protection of dealers. There is no doubt that if the Chancellor had been more tractable there would have been quite a little boom in entertainment shares.

PRESENT PRICES.
CINEMA COMPANIES.

Company.		Stock or Share.	Price.
Provincial Cinema Theatres	£1	500,000	⅜–⅞
Do. 10% Part. Pref. Ord.	£1	1,000,000	8/6–9/6
Do. 7½% Cum. B. Pref.	£1	600,000	13/0–14/0
Do. 7½% Cum. A. Pref.	£1	100,000	⅞–1
Stoll Picture Theatre (Kingsway)	10/-	150,000	½–⅝
Do. 8½% Cum. Pref. .	£1	150,000	½–⅝
Do. 7% 1st Mort. Debs.	Stock	100,000	85–90
THEATRE AND MUSIC HALL COMPANIES.			
Alhambra	£1	79,506	—
Coliseum Syndicate ..	£1	70,588	2½–⅝
Do. 7% Pref.	£1	70,588	¾
Do. 6% Pref.	£1	44,000	¾
London Pavilion ..	£5	130,000	2–2¼
Do. 6% Cum. Pref. ..	£5	50,000	2¾–3¼
London Theatres of Varieties	£1	400,000	⅛
Do. 7% Cum. Pref. ..	£1	100,000	⅛–⅜
Oxford	£5	100,000	4
Theatre Royal, Drury Lane	15/-pd.	94,000	⅞–1
Variety Theatres, Consolidated	£1	137,007	—
Victoria Palace ..	10/0	80,000	⅞–1

Biograph Theatres' Liquidation.
The decision of the Biograph Theatres to wind up is another illustration of the difficulties which most public cinematograph undertakings seem, by some special, and also official perversity, to labour under in the United Kingdom. The company was one of the earliest of such enterprises here, having been started in 1908, but its scope of operations was small, as it only had a capital of £50,000. During the first five years it was very successful, and paid an average dividend of 12½ per cent., but with the outbreak of war it fell on evil days, and in 1913-14 incurred a loss of £26,500.

Up to 1919-20 it was engaged in slowly liquidating this deficit, but last year it again incurred a loss and carried forward a debit balance of £9,300. For some years the question of reconstruction had been under consideration, and it had been provisionally decided to write down the capital by half. Now, however, it is proposed to wind up before all the assets are dissipated. Judging by the state of the last balance-sheet, shareholders stand a chance of getting a little of their capital back.

The many illustrations of this sort that the past few years have provided would be sufficient to convince any ordinary business man of the need for lightening the burden of taxation on such enterprises, but Sir Robert Horne has so far proved to be a veritable Nero so far as entertainment enterprises are concerned.

BARTHOLOMEW LANE.

NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED.

Compiled for "The Era" from official sources by Messrs. Jordan & Sons, Ltd., of Chancery-lane.

BRITISH DEKO SYNDICATE, LTD., 87, Moorgate, E.C.2.—Regd. May 9. To carry on the business of photographers, producers of pictorial photography, animated pictures, and kinematograph films. Capital, £5,000, in 5,000 shares of £1 each.

B. I. E. SYNDICATE, LTD., 8, Queen-street, Cheapside, E.C. Regr. May 6. To acquire and carry on the business of theatre, music hall, and concert hall proprietors and agents, &c. Capital, £500, in 500 ordinary shares of £1 each. Directors: Viscount Templeton (chairman), A. P. Fielder and H. C. Hobbs.

EXPRESS IMPORT AND EXPORT CO., LTD., 144, Wardour-street, W.1.—Regd. May 8. To acquire and carry on the business of general exporters and importers of all classes of goods (including cinematograph films). Capital, £1,000, in 1,000 shares of £1 each. Directors: W. H. Spencer, "Charlwood," Norbury-avenue, Norbury; H. Wolfensohn, 36, Wellington-avenue, N.16.

MUTUAL COMMERCE, LTD., 11/12, Southampton-buildings, Holborn, W.C.2.—Regd. May 8. To carry on the business of club proprietors, providers of cinematograph, bioscope, and animated picture entertainments, &c. Capital, £5,000, in 4,000 10 per cent. par. pref. shares of £1 each and 1,000 ordinary shares of £1 each.

PLAYWRIGHTS' PRODUCTIONS, LTD., 52, Acacia-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.8.—Regd. May 8. To carry on the business of theatre proprietors and managers, &c. Capital, £3,000, in 3,000 shares of £1 each. Directors: Irene Gladys Brown (professionally known as Irene Hentschel), 52, Acacia-road, St. John's Wood; Monica Ewer, 17, Acacia-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.

SHAFTESBURY CO., LTD.—Regd. May 8. To produce stage plays, circuses, shows, and entertainments, musical and/or dramatic. Capital, £1,000, in 1,000 shares of £1 each. Subs.: C. M. Fuller, 126, High-street, Maidenhead, wine and spirit merchant; C. H. Potter, 16, Castle-hill, Maidenhead, traveller.

"GOLDEN GLITTER" AT DOVER.

Ernest W. Palfreyman's musical comedy revue, in five scenes, "Golden Glitter," had appreciative audiences at the Royal Hippodrome last week. The plot concerns a certain Prince of Hiawia, who, coming to this country and on the look-out for a chorus company, meets one, of which Gobey (Miss Ruby Mildred) is a member and a musical comedy star, arranges with Twilfit, proprietor of the Café Delight (Austin Melrose) for a visit to Hiawia. Twilfit and Gobey have interests other than in the business, and work well together as lovers. The former's sparkling versatility is a great feature, whilst Melrose's fine voice is heard to advantage in his solo numbers, as well as duets with her. He aids with some delightful comedy work, especially with Bottles (George Melbah), as his doorman. An outstanding feature is the excellent singing of the Prince (La Tagaste), whose numbers include "Cigarette." Miss Kitty Stedman, as Bottles' wife, adds considerably to the comedy. The specialities are excellently arranged and quite diverting; what happens in the corridor train between the Prince, Bottles and his wife, and Gobey, proves a very successful mirth-provoker; the passport office and divorce court incidents should also be mentioned in that category. Further successful features include the pretty and effective dancing of the Golden Troupe of acrobatic dancers and the fine wood-shoe and sand-dancing of Kid Love. The work of Melbah, as contributor to the comedy element, is most commendable, as well as that of Ambrose, either as juvenile lead or "dued," in specialities, with Ambrose. The latter's songs include an Eight Novelty Dress Parade Girls before the Prince, a very successful item. The choruses are rich and effective, the ensembles are prettily carried out and are incidental to the plot, and the dresses equally so.

"The Bohemian Girl."
To-day (Wednesday), at the Alhambra, at 11 a.m., the trade show of the Harvey Knoles production "The Bohemian Girl," will be given. The distinguished cast includes Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Gladys Cooper, Ivor Novello, Miss Constance Collier, Aubrey Smith, and Henry Vibart.

Poly Cinema.
Written and produced by Adrian Brunel, "A Temporary Lady," featuring Annette Benson and Miles Mander, is being shown this week at the Poly Cinema, Regent-street. It is interesting to note that Mr. Mander and Mr. Brunel, who were associated in the production of this film, are now associated in the presentation of the picture, being joint controllers of the Poly Cinema.

Crossing the "Pond."
Among the bookings of the "Aquitania," which sailed from Southampton on Saturday last, arranged by Messrs. Daw's Shipping Agency, were those of Jack Dempsey and his party, Jack Kearns, J. Benjamin, and T. Hayes.

RETIREMENT OF MR. J. HERBERT ASQUITH.

The announcement of Mr. J. Herbert Asquith's retirement from the management of the Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, has been received by the playgoing public of the district with much regret. Mr. Asquith has been manager at Dewsbury over 20 years, and has the longest record of any "resident" manager under the Northern Theatres Company, Ltd., having been in their service as manager of one or other of their theatres over a quarter of a century. It is worthy of note, too, that Mr. Asquith has *never* been *absent* from duty a single day when the theatre has been open, either through illness or from any other cause, a record of which he is justly proud. Previous to joining the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd., Mr. Asquith was general manager a few years for the late Col. Cody.

During the long time Mr. Asquith has lived in Dewsbury, he has, by reason of his genial, kind-hearted disposition, made hosts of friends in the town. The theatre itself has been improved considerably in many ways. He has witnessed the completion of an almost new interior, new seating, lighting, and general renovation, &c., and it is now without doubt up to the standard, if not better than most provincial theatres. He has also succeeded in bringing to the town the very best companies on the road, and his efforts in this direction have been amply rewarded.

"THROUGH THE FOURTH WALL."
Published by Chapman and Hall, Ltd., at 12s. 6d. net.

These "Studies in Dramatic Criticism" by Mr. W. A. Darlington originally appeared in the "Daily Telegraph." A good essay on any subject should be bright and readable, and Mr. Darlington's writings well bear this test. You may not always agree with his views on plays or players, but you will never find him dull or tedious. And the earnest student of the drama is likely to be more often than not in agreement with Mr. Darlington, who, be it said, very carefully avoids boring his readers with hazy ideas about high art or the visionary views of the "highbrow" on the modern theatre. This being the case, this volume will interest those whose interest in stage matters is only that of the enthusiastic playgoer. For the untried dramatist the author of these essays has many valuable hints in regard to technique and other matters of importance.

The essays are arranged under three headings, "The Play," "The Players," and "The Theatre." In each section Mr. Darlington displays evidence of the possession of keen critical faculty, without strong prejudices in favour of any particular type of play or school of acting.

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THE WEEK'S RACING.

A Glance over Derby Prospects.

SOME GOOD WINNERS.

The nearer we approach to Derby Day, the more it is evident that, even in face of the easy win of St. Louis in the Two Two Thousand Guineas, there are several stables that entertain much more than a hope of taking the prize.

The Gilpin stable itself is divided between St. Louis and Re-echo, and it is obvious that partisanship will have a deal to say right up to the start. Those who favour St. Louis naturally point to his very easy win in the first classic as conclusive of his holding an outstanding chance. He certainly won very comfortably that day, and at no part of the race was he so manifestly superior as at the finish. Had the winning post been another quarter mile ahead, it would have been an astonishingly easy win.

That is all right so far as it goes, but it may be pointed out, in extenuation of some of the failures, that the going was about as bad as it can be, for Newmarket, and quite a number were utterly unable to act on it. It was soft to a degree, after phenomenal rain. Now, few horses can act on both soft and firm going; and this, in despite of the fact that it is said a real good one can act on any going or any course. That saying must be taken with a bucketful of salt. It suited St. Louis down to the ground, but it was distinctly detrimental to the chance of Pondoland, and it simply murdered that of several of the others.

The Likely Derby Candidate.

Pondoland has since won the Newmarket Stakes in commanding style. He may have met a lot of second raters, but he was never pushed at any part of the journey, and won as he pleased at the finish. Whether he can last out the extra quarter mile at Epsom, and the Derby course is a by no means easy one, remains to be seen, but that his friends believe he can do so is very eloquently expressed by the way in which the money has been going on him this past few days. O'Neill, who rode him in both the Guineas and the Newmarket Stakes, has accepted the Derby mount, and few, if any, finer riders or judges of just what is necessary carry colours at the present time.

Now what about Captain Cuttle? He could only get third for us in the Guineas, and was put down at the time by many usually good judges as a non-stayer as a result of his compounding after little more than six furlongs had been covered. That may well have been a premature decision. He is a big horse, and that he was anything but cherry-merry in condition was shown by his hard blowing after the race. That might well be excused in face of the mud-punching ordeal which he had just undertaken. It was a very different performance to that at the previous meeting, where he won with his ears pricked when running on top of the ground, at least, comparatively so. He has been giving the greatest satisfaction in home gallops since, and we are quite prepared to see an altogether better display a fortnight hence. The fact that no liberties are taken with him in the market tells its own tale.

Several that have run during the past three weeks have put themselves outside the pale, and it would take an optimist indeed to espouse the cause of such as Simon Pure, Scamp, Hebrides, or Westmead.

Three that have shown ability to get the full distance are Bucks Hussar, Fodder, and Norseman, but the latter pair perhaps can be overlooked, as Fodder is pretty certain to make way for Pondoland, and Norseman although a winner over the distance, showed his limitations at Newbury. Bucks Hussar may be another matter. His first failure this year can be overlooked; he was nothing but a raw recruit and ran like one. His after battles, however, have been increasingly convincing, and he quite possibly will be a real danger to the swells.

The next few days may give us the key to a deal that is at present in obscurity, but we may say that all our leanings are in favour of P. P. Gilpin leading in the winner, but we have an idea that Captain Cuttle may prove a much more dangerous factor than many imagine.

So far as Gilpin's pair are concerned, we would advise both being backed, either in the French fashion, or, if it must be a case of standing on one only as the main hope, then at least save on the other. We may be in a position to be more definite as to which we think the better of the pair in a week's time, but at present do not care to express an opinion.

Hints for the Week.

There has been a very full week's racing so far, and it continues to the end; York and Bath taking to-day, Doncaster and Salisbury to-morrow and Friday, and not until Windsor do we get the single programme to deal with.

At York to-day the Rockingham Handicap should bring out a good field, but, whatever runs, PERRY HILL each way, in our opinion, represents a really sound investment, and BUCKS HUSSAR should prove a good thing for the Sledmere Stakes.

At Salisbury on Thursday the horse that beats CONTRACTOR will win the Wiltshire Plate. If anything does so we think it may be Strathleven, who is now at her best.

At Salisbury on Friday, the Salisbury Cup is certain to bring out a fine field, of which we think Norseman and Achanalt will prove best. If he runs, NORSEMAN should win, but whether he runs or not, ACHANALT each way can hardly fail to show a profit.

At Windsor, on Saturday, the Royal Windsor Three-Year-Old Handicap is sure to be hotly contested, and those we like best are Werwolf and Treviso. Of the pair perhaps WERWOLF is entitled to preference as being better class, but we are confident Treviso will want a lot of beating.

At Birmingham, on Monday, WERWOLF crops up again with a sound chance for the Birmingham Three-Year-Old Handicap, and this colt should be followed.

At Lewes, on Tuesday, the Lewes Spring Handicap may prove a consolation prize for SILVER CREST for failures of late. He is as well now as a horse could be, and is a certain winner before long.

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	WEST KENT	Won 3/1
Wednesday	**STAR REGAL**	Won 13/8
	HUNTING SONG	Won 11/8
Thursday	**VENGEDOR**	Won 7/2
	EAGERFORD	Won 5/2
Friday	**IMPERIAL**	Won 5/1
	SUN CHARMER	Won 7/4
Saturday	**JUNISO**	Won 3/1
	PIZARRO	Won 3/1

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ON THE ROAD.

PLAYS.

AFGAR (BLUE).—May 15, Olympia, Shoreditch; 22, Hip., Poplar.
ALL IN ONE.—May 22, Emp., Liverpool.
ARE YOU A MASON? — May 15, T.R., Chatham.
ASHWELL (LENA) PLAYERS.—May 15 and 22, Grand O.H., Scarborough.
AT THE VILLA ROSE.—May 15, T.R., Lincoln.
* BAYNTON (HENRY) SHAKESPEAREAN CO.—May 15, P.O.W., Birmingham; 22, P.O.W., Birmingham.
BELLE OF MADRID.—May 15, Hip., Hulme; 22, King's, Longsight.
* BELLE OF NEW YORK. — May 15, T.R., Halifax; 22, P.O.W., Grimsby.
* BILL OF DIVORCEMENT.—May 15, T.R., Birmingham; 22, Grand, Leeds.
* BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE CO.—May 15, O.H., Leicester; 22, Edinburgh.
* BLUE LAGOON (T. C. WRAY).—May 15, Woolwich; 22, Putney.
BROKEN MELODY (SEYMOUR AND BAKER.—May 15, Marina, Lowestoft.
* BROWN SUGAR (LION, WALLS AND HENSON).—May 15, T.R., York; 22, Prince's, Bradford.
* BROWN SUGAR (MAINWARING-DUNSTAN). — May 15, Gaiety, Hastings.
* BULL-DOG DRUMMOND. — May 15, Palace, Westcliff-on-Sea; 22, Borough, Stratford.
* CARL ROSA OPERA CO. — May 15, Bristol; 22, Newport, Mon.
CARNIVAL (MATHESON LANG).—May 15, Prince's, Bristol; 22, D.P., Eastbourne.
* CHARLEY'S AUNT.—May 15, O.H., Coventry; 22, O.H., Burton.
* CLOTHES AND THE WOMAN.—May 15, T.R., Nottingham.
DEANE (HAMILTON) CO.—May 15, Pier Pav., Southport; 22, T.R., Stockport.
* DENVILLE REP. CO. (ALFRED) (PINK).—T.R., Ashton.
* DENVILLE REP. CO. (BLUE).—T.R., Dewsbury.
* DENVILLE REP. CO. (BROWN). — Hippo., Wallasey.
* DENVILLE REP. CO. (RED).—Court, Wigan.
* DENVILLE REP. CO. (WHITE).—Victoria, Burnley.
* DENVILLE REP. CO. (YELLOW). — Pavilion, Chorley.
DORAN (CHARLES) SHAKESPEAREAN CO.—May 15, Lyceum, Newport; 22, T.R., Plymouth.
* D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—May 15, Grand, Leeds; 22, New, Oxford.
* D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—May 15, County, Bedford; 22, T.R., Norwich.
EDGE O' BEYOND.—May 15, Prince's, Bradford.
* ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT, THE.—May 15, Empire, Bristol; 22, Grand, Croydon.
ELIZA COMES TO STAY (JACK ESMOND'S).—May 15, Grand, Wolverhampton; 22, O.H., Leicester.
* FAIR AND WARMER.—May 15, T.R., Ashton; 22, T.R., Sheffield.
* FAITHFUL HEART.—May 15, Emp., Preston; 22, T.R., Birmingham.
* FORBES-ROBERTSON (FRANK) AND CO.—May 15, Grand, Southampton.
FOXWELL REP. CO.—May 15, Victoria, West Stanley.
* GARDEN OF ALLAH. — May 15, E., West Hartlepool; 22, Hip., Newcastle.
* HATHAWAY-BARON REP. CO.—May 15, Hip., Darwen.
* HILL MITCHELSON (E.) REPERTORY CO.—May 15 and 22, T.R., Middlesbrough.
* HUNKY DORY.—May 15, Grand, Blackpool; 22, Pall., Southport.
IDOL OF PARIS.—May 15, Palace, Gloucester.
IRVING (MISS ETHEL AND CO.).—May 15, Court, Liverpool; 22, Prince's, Manchester.
KID OF ARIZONA.—May 15, Hip., Nuneaton.
* KNAVE OF DIAMONDS (DANIEL MAYER AND CO.).—May 15, T.R., Bolton; 22, O.H., Coventry.
* KNAVE OF DIAMONDS (VIOLET VANBRUGH).—May 15, New, Cardiff.
* LAWRENCE (LEONARD).—May 15, H.M., Carlisle.
* LITTLE BABETTE (CARLTON FREDERICKS).—May 15, Palace, Yeovil; 22, Palace, Salisbury.
* LITTLE BIT OF FLUFF.—May 15, Bury; 22, Blackburn.
* LONDON'S GRAND GUIGNOL.—May 15, D.P., Eastbourne; 22, T.R., Bournemouth.
LOVE AMONG THE PAINT-POTS.—May 15, Pav., Weymouth.
* MACDONA PLAYERS, THE (BERNARD SHAW REPERTOIRE).—May 15, Gaiety, Dublin; 22, O.H., Cork.
* MAID OF THE MOUNTAINS (GEO. EDWARDES).—May 15, Palace, Manchester; 22, T.R., Birmingham.
* MAN WHO STAYED IN BED.—May 15, T.R., Bath.
MARSH (ALEX.) SHAKESPEAREAN CO.—May 15, O.H., Southport; 22, Grand, Llandudno.
* MILLANE (JOSEPH) REP. CO.—May 15, T.R., Aston.
* MOTHER SHOULD TELL.—May 15, Empire, Peterborough.
MR. GARRICK.—May 15, Brighton.
* MY OLD DUTCH (CHEVALIER).—May 22, O.H., Harrogate.
* NAUGHTY WIFE (MACDONALD AND YOUNG).—May 15, T.R., Hanley; 22, O.H., Belfast.
* NIGHTIE-NIGHT.—May 15, New, Cambridge.
* NIGHTIE-NIGHT.—May 15, Olympia, Liverpool.
OMAR HASSAN. — May 22, J.H., Weymouth.
* POLLY WITH A PAST.—May 15, T.R., Brighton.
* QUAKER GIRL, THE.—May 15, Hip., Keighley.
* QUALITY STREET (MACDONA).—May 15, Victoria Hall, Sunderland; 22, King's, Glasgow.
* RENOVATING EVE.—May 15, Court, Liverpool.
* ROMANCE.—May 15, T.R., Rochdale; 22, Emp., Preston.
* SALLY IN SOCIETY.—May 15, T.R., Leamington.
* SEMBER (ALBERT) REP CO.—May 15 and 22, Palace, Gloucester.
* SKIN GAME.—May 22, T.R., York.
* STEPHENS (DOT) REP. CO.—May 15, Col., Long Eaton.
TERRY (FRED) CO.—May 15, Hip., Portsmouth; 22, Gaiety, Hastings.
* THANK YOU, PHILLIPS.—May 22, County, Reading.
* TO-NIGHT'S THE NIGHT.—May 15, T.R., Peterborough; 22, T.R., King's Lynn.
TROUBLE IN THE HOUSE.—May 15, Her Majesty's, Carlisle.
UNCLE NED.—May 15, T.R., Bournemouth.
* UP IN MABEL'S ROOM.—May 15, Grand, Derby; 22, Grand, Swansea.
* VERY IDEA, THE.—May 22, T.R., Bath.
* WEEK-END, A (W. W. ELLIS NO. 1 CO.).—May 15, Reading; 22, Kingston.
* WEEK-END, A (E. W. WADDY).—May 15, County, Chelmsford.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—May 15, O.H., Blackpool.
WILLIAMS (BRANSBY) CO.—May 15, Hippo., Newcastle.
* WOMAN TO WOMAN.—May 22, T.R., Bolton.
YOUNG PERSON IN PINK.—May 22, Pav., Glasgow.
* YOUNGER GENERATION.—May 15, T.R., Leeds.
* ZAZA.—May 15, T.R., Portsmouth.

REVUES.

* ALL ABOARD.—May 15, T.R., Jarrow.
ALL BLACK.—May 15, T.R., Wolverhampton.
ALL PUT.—May 22, Hip., Norwich.
ALL THE BEST.—May 15, P.H., Pershore.
BARE-BACKS.—May 15, Hip., Southend.
* BEHIND THE SCENES.—May 15, Grand, Luton; 22, Palace, Watford.
BELLE OF MADRID.—May 15, Hulme Hip., Manchester.
BLUE BIRDS.—May 15, Palace, Hammersmith.
BOW-WOW.—May 15, T.R., Merthyr; 22, Palace, Ammanford.
BRAN PIE.—May 15, Emp., Newport; 22, Emp., Swansea.
BRIGHT AND BREEZY. — May 22, Palace, Southampton.
BUBBLE AND SQUEAK.—May 15, Palace, Watford.
BUCCANEERS, THE.—May 22, King's, Dundee.
* BUZZ ALONG.—May 15, Queen's Park, Manchester.
* CHARLIE GOES EAST.—May 15, Emp., York.
CIRCUS QUEEN.—May 15, Hip., Norwich; 22, Hip., Ipswich.
COME ON, STEVE.—May 15, Hippo., Birkenhead; 22, Grand, Blackpool.
DAINTY ANKLES.—May 15, O.H., Torquay.
* DREAM GIRL, THE.—May 15, Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
EASTERN LOVE.—May 15, Hip., Bolton.
EYE-OPENER.—May 15, H.M., Aberdeen.
FIRE-WORKS.—May 15, Hippo., Ashton-in-Makerfield.
FLASHES.—May 15, Pavilion, Leicester.
FOOTLIGHT FROLICS.—May 15, Queen's, Castleford; 22, Palladium, Llandudno.
* GO-AS-YOU-PLEASE. — May 15, Her Majesty's, Walsall; 22, O.H., Dudley.
GOLDEN GLITTER.—May 15, Hip., Eastbourne.
HEADS OR TAILS. — May 15, Palace, Gloucester; 22, New, Pontypridd.
HELLO! CHARLIE.—May 15, Hip., Ashton-in-Makerfield.
* HIGH HEELS AND STOCKINGS. — May 15, Hip., Stockton; 22, T.R., Blyth.
HOOCH AYE.—May 15, Hip., Preston; 22, Tivoli, New Brighton.
HOW DO YOU DO?—May 15, O.H., Dudley.
IRISH MAID.—May 15, Grand, Mansfield; 22, Bath.
* IT.—May 15, Emp., Burnley; 22, Hip., Wigan.
* JACK OF ALL TRADES. — May 15, Emp., Kingston.
JOY BELLS.—May 15, Hip., Derby; 22, Hip., Nottingham.
JOY-NIGHTS.—May 15, Emp., Gateshead.
KEEP GUESSING.—May 15, Palace, Salford; 22, T.R., Edinburgh.
* KINEMA KID.—May 22, Palace, Bradford.
* (K)NIGHT OF THE GARTER.—May 15, Emp., York; 22, Emp., York.
LADS OF THE VILLAGE.—May 15, Court, Warrington.
* LEAGUE OF NOTIONS. —. May 15, Hip., Leeds.
MR. TOWER OF LONDON. — May 15, Palace, Southampton; 22, Pal., Blackburn.
* MUMMING BIRDS.—May 15, King's, Manchester.
NEW JINGLES.—May 15, Emp., Croydon; 22, Palace, Maidstone.
NO LIMIT.—May 15, Palace, Chatham.
OH, DOLLY.—May 15, T.R., North Shields.
OH! I.—May 15, Empire, Penge.
OH! LAUGH.—May 15, Hip., Poplar; 22, Emp., Burnley.
* O.K.—May 15, Met., Bootle.
PANTALOONATICS.—May 15, Alex., Hull.
PATCHES.—May 15, King's, Dundee.
PEDLAR'S PIE.—May 15, O.H., Buxton.
PEEP-SHOW.—May 15, Emp., New Cross.
* PINS AND NEEDLES.—May 15, Grand, Clapham Junction; 22, Hip., Leeds.
REDHEADS.—May 15, T.R., Edinburgh.
ROCKETS.—May 15, Alhambra, Bradford.
* SCRAP-BOOK, THE.—May 15, Emp., Sunderland.
SCRAPS.—May 15, Gravesend.
SEE YOU LATER.—May 15, Palace, Chelsea.
SHIP AHOY!—May 15, Victory, Ripley.
SHOW-BOX, THE.—May 15, Hip., Wolverhampton.
SNAPSHOTS.—May 22, Grand, Birmingham.
SPANGLES.—May 15, Hippo., Southampton.
SPLINTERS OF 1922. — May 15, Col., Glasgow.
SPLINTERS OF 1922. — May 15, T.H., Weymouth.
TAKE ALL.—May 15, Hip., Chesterfield.
TANGLES.—May 15, Palace, Maidstone.
THERE YOU ARE, THEN. — May 15, Empire, Edmonton; 22, Palace, Carlisle.
TIT-BITS.—May 15, P.G., Folkestone; 22, Emp., Penge.
TOO MANY CROOKS. — May 15, T.R., Portsmouth.
TRIP TO PARIS.—May 15, Hip., Selby.
TWIDDLEY BITS.—May 15, Palace, Carlisle.
WHAT A NIGHT.—May 15, Tivoli, New Brighton; 22, Col., Glasgow.
WHAT A LAD.—May 15, Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
ZIG-ZAG.—May 15, Emp., Swindon; 22, Palace, Reading.
* 1922.—May 15, Emp., Birmingham.

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"DOGS OF DEVON."

Three performances of a clever comic opera in three acts, with this title, were given recently, at the Athenæum Theatre, Glasgow, by the South Side Musical and Dramatic Association. The book and lyrics by F. R. Bell and Harold Ellis, contain many bright items, and the story tells of the days of Francis Drake, and the attack by the Spanish Armada, the historical episode of Drake finishing his game at bowls before embarking for the notorious fight with the Armada, being neatly worked in. The music of W. H. Bullock is tuneful throughout, some of the choruses and a madrigal in the last act being particularly good. Though produced by amateurs, many of the parts were well acted, and the singing of the principals was all through on a meritorious grade. Mr. J. A. Fergusson made a handsome Sir Francis Drake; Mr. Jas. H. McMorrine and Mr. Robert Brooke revelled in the villainies of the Spanish Ambassador and his henchman. Mr. Robt. Gilmour (who produced the opera) was very amusing as the innkeeper, and was ably assisted by Miss A. B. Holliday as his wife. Mr. James M. Morton was drily humorous as the Mayor of Plymouth, and had excellent support from Messrs. Dan Reid and Jack Dobson, as the Town Clerk and the Town Crier respectively. Mr. Bert Paterson as the hero, Captain Hugh Fleming, sang his various numbers in a pleasant tenor voice, and his sweetheart, Dolores, was the vocal hit of the performance as played by Miss Chrys. M'Millan. Miss A. Murphy was a stately Queen Elizabeth. Mr. A. Grimshaw as the Sergeant of the Beefeaters, had a rollicking song to his credit.

The entire performance went with a good swing thanks to the able conducting of Mr. R. M. Morton, and the efforts of a fine orchestra of 16 performers.

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MAYFAIR DRAMATIC CLUB.

This new club, which has been formed for the purpose of producing eighteenth-century comic operas, announce that they will stage, at the Guildhall School of Music, on the evenings of Friday and Saturday, May 26 and 27, the comic opera, in three acts and 16 scenes, entitled "The Haunted Tower," by James Cobb, music adapted and composed by Stephen Storace.

"The Haunted Tower" was first produced by Storace at Drury Lane on Nov. 24, 1789. The success was unbounded; it was performed 50 nights in the first season, and kept its place upon the stage for nearly half a century.

The present production is the same as was performed in 1789, having been produced from the original libretto and vocal score, and it has been the aim of the producer, Mr. Alec Brooksbank, to present the opera identically as staged in the eighteenth century. Any proceeds derived from the production will be devoted to the Children's Country Holiday Fund.

STREATHAM SHAKESPEARE PLAYERS.

The Streatham Shakespeare Players gave their 13th annual performance recently at the Guildhall School of Music. "Hamlet" was the play selected, and a high standard of excellence was reached and maintained throughout the four and a half hours which the performance lasted. Hamlet was played by Mr. P. L. Eyre, who gave a dramatic and intellectual interpretation to the part, and proved himself to be an actor of great ability. Miss Phyllis Jones, as Ophelia, did remarkably well; Miss Dorothy Vernon, was very good as the Queen, as was Mr. J. Stuart Bell as the remorse-stricken Claudius. Mr. George Marlborough was highly commendable as Horatio, and Mr. D. Elliot Watson was a dashing young Laertes. Mr. W Gilbert, Frank Watkins, Ewart Wheeler, May Carey, Dorothy Vernon, and Mr. D Carey amongst others gave valuable assistance by their performances. The whole production reflects great credit on Miss E. C. Maney, under whose direction the play was produced.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Many Happy Returns to:—

Ellis Jeffreys, Wednesday, May 17.
Frank Irish, Wednesday, May 17.
Fred Griffiths, Wednesday, May 17.
Lucy Beaumont, Thursday, May 18.
Mme. Melba, Friday, May 19.
Vivian Foster, Friday, May 19.
Gilbert Porteous, Friday, May 19.
Dorothea Baird, Saturday, May 20.
Pauline Chase, Saturday, May 20.
C. Douglas Stuart, Sunday, May 21.
Morny Cash, Sunday, May 21.
Sir A. Conan Doyle, Monday, May 22.
J. F. Traynor, Tuesday, May 23.
My Fancy, Tuesday, May 23.
Dion Boucicault, Tuesday, May 23.
Edward Foster Tuesday, May 23.

KINGSTON OPERATIC SOCIETY.

The Kingston Operatic Society opened their spring production at the Assembly Rooms, Surbiton, with Gilbert and Sullivan's opera "H.M.S. Pinafore," preceded by "Trial by Jury." Playing to a large and enthusiastic audience, the Society met with considerable success. In "H.M.S. Pinafore" Mr. Will H. Atkins played the part of the First Lord of the Admiralty with much charm and ease of manner. In Mrs. K. Spearing the Society have a really good leading lady, and her numbers, "Sorry Her Lot," "A Simple Sailor Lowly Born," and the duet, "Refrain, Audacious Tar," with her sailor lover, were most admirably rendered. Special praise should be given to Mr. Herbert W. Ashman, who played the difficult rôle of Dick Deadeye with much confidence. In "Trial by Jury" special notice should be given to the splendid performance of Mr. Alec Gemmell in the part of the defendant. Mr. Reginald A. Higgins as the learned judge, and Mrs. Fay Strutt, as the plaintiff, were both well suited to their parts. The chorus in both operas was really first-class, and much credit is due to Mr. George Emery, the musical director, and Mr. T. J. Lamb, the producer, for such a capable performance. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. G. Emery, was quite efficient.

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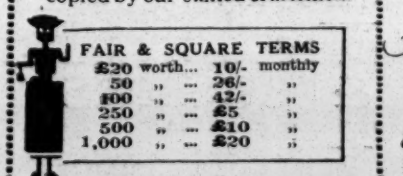

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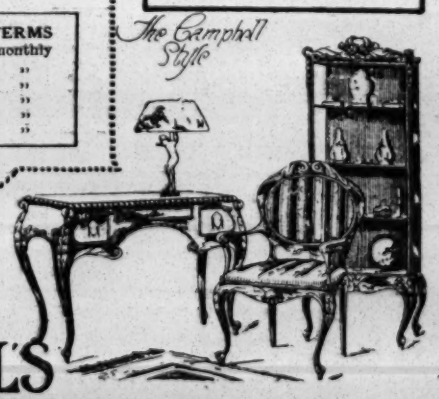

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Secretary and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTS' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS.
Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR MAY 22, 1922.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—
Ruth St. Denis, Peggy O'Neil, Noni, Hellena Hoven, May Wirth & Co., Jack Lane, Medini, Martyn and Florence, Cohan and Dorothy, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)

Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Glass and Grant, Jack and Evelyn, Transky, Winifred O'Connor, George and Partner, Marriott Edgar, The Olloms, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Company as booked.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Rosie Lloyd, Page's Dolls, Will Evans, Bruce Green, Four Jacksons, Sandy Powell, Marie Lawton, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Scala and Lillian, Gealks and Gealks, The Mougadors, Joyce and Shields, Nellie Maguire, Joe and Johnny, Mullaney Bros., Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Kenneth Maclaine, "Under the Apple Tree," Keyes and Kodey, Skating Nelsons, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for :—
Hemming and Free, Van Dock, George Jackley, The McLeans, Billy Danvers, Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Company as booked.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—
Woodward and Page, May Sherrard, Cecily Courtneidge, Bel-Air Trio, Macford's Clock, Vera Lavrova, O'Gorman Brothers, Bioscope.
(Matinees Monday and Tuesday)

ARDWICK GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for :—
Niblo and Doris, Wyn and Ivy, Sutcliffe Family, Griffiths Brothers, Alexandre, Montgomery and Yule, Sidney Edwards, Bioscope.

And in association with the above—

THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.

Rehearsal at 10.0 a.m. for :—
Frank and Vesta, Kaeths, Will Fyffe, Eddie Vogt, Fyne and Hurley, Dainty Doris, Wells and Eclair Twins, Bioscope.

NOTE.—Artists engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except the London Coliseum, which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate 'Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor. (Harp and Organ if required.)

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artists three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artists.

ARTISTS' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed, or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Sir Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

PROVIDING CONTINUOUS ENGAGEMENTS FOR ARTISTS AT THE MOST IMPORTANT VARIETY THEATRES IN THE LONDON AREA.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES—

25, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.

Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, May 22, 1922.

LONDON PAVILION.
Harry Lauder and Company.

OXFORD.
C. B. Cochran's production
"Mayfair and Montmartre."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Ike and Will Scott. Act Beautiful.
The Ketos. Maraso and Socoloba.
Sandy Rowan. Rosie Reys.
Charlbert Brothers. Dienne and Rene.

CHELSEA PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12.
Payne and Hilliard. Welsh Choir.
Cole and Robbins. Fred Hutchings.
Okayama Troupe. Sisters Heywood.
The Lisbons, etc.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Les Melodia. Dick Tubb.
Three Scamps. Hengler Brothers.
Lyons and Fay, Kitty Curtis.
Athas and Collins. C. W. Woltard.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 2.30.
A. C. Brocklebank presents Revue
"Behind the Scenes."

EUSTON.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Julot and Piero. The Fayre Four.
Key and Keyworth. Carvet and Verena
Dave Stewart. Agnes York.
Riley's Wonders. Dave Godfrey.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Golda Penville Quartette. Sam Mayo
Bert Maddison. Djim and Bill.
Bobbie Kerrigan. Anna Hana.
The Clovelly Girls. Eddie Walker.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
J. Cummings presents
"See You Later."

BRIXTON EMPRESS.
Rehearsal at 12.
Hilda Nelson Trio.
Chas. Windermere and Co. in
"Sarah Sleeps Out."
Caron Troupe. Matthew Newton.
Ted and Billy Larkum. Le Dair
Keegan and Willis. Theo. Ward.

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artists, without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to the Manager of each hall three weeks prior to the date of opening.

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

FAYRE FOUR, THE SISTERS, Tina, Inga, Lilla and Sylva, World's Greatest English Concertina Quartette. This week, Leicester. P.A., Speenham-road, Stockwell, London.

PATTI LOFTUS. On Tour. Perm. address, City Varieties, Leeds.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS. This, Hippo., Newcastle. Next, Lyceum, Sheffield.

Business Manager, Ernest Edelsten.

MISS DAISY JAMES. Everybody's Favourite. Coms., 65, Sudbourne-rd., Brixton Hill, S.W. 'Phone, 2115 Brixton.

T. E. DUNVILLE. London always. Gulliver's Travels, 4 trips nightly. Letters, c/o "The Era." Sole Agent, Mr. Walter Bentley. New Songs. Blue Beard. Hamlet. Encyclopædia.

FELDMANISM

Telephone: Gerr. 4,447. 5,153. **125, 127, 129, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, W.C.2.** Telegrams: "Humfriv, London."

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

Stanley and Alleyn.

Feldmanists of the platform usually grace our portrait gallery. By way of a change we include, this week, two capable Feldmanists of the pen in Ralph Stanley and Leslie Alleyn. This brainy combination are responsible for many successes featured by front-rank performers to-day, and their fame as song-writers is steadily increasing as time goes on. Their work is conspicuous for original ideas skilfully worked out. "Pot-boilers" have no place in their list, hence the general high level of their compositions.

Here are some of their established hits: "Italian Skies" (Fred Barnes); "I Thought You Loved Me," and "One, Two, Three, Four, Five O'Clock in the Morning" (Vine and Russell); "I've Had a Good Time With the Girls" (Daisy Taylor); "Keep on Smiling" (Barker and Wynne); "When the Winter Time Comes Round" and "It's Doing Me Good" (O'Neil and Thayer). The boys have also just finished two numbers, "Bowl the Ball to Me" and "Old-Time Melodies" for Paul Murray's new revue "All in One."

FOOTLIGHT FLASHES.

"Crooning" Retained.

Mareski tells us that he had to change his numbers mid-week at Dover, but was

RALPH STANLEY.

specially requested to retain "Crooning." A compliment to Mareski and his song!

Blooming!

The Rosebud Trio report wonderful success in "Down Yonder." The Rosebuds are blooming!

Pick of the Bunch.

"Moonlight," says Louise Earle, "is the pick of the Feldman bunch this season." Miss Earle is not alone in her opinion.

Always Successful.

"Am still featuring 'For One Sweet Day,' and find it always successful." Thus Patti Regina, A.L.C.M., who knows a good song *and does it justice.*

Fixed for Prestatyn.

Stanley Russell, who with his equally clever sister, Wee May, continue to feature "Ta Ta," "Going Home," and "Movieland" with success, advises us that he is fixed for Prestatyn this summer, where he will carry on the good work of Feldmanism.

"Old Pal."

We hear glowing reports of Dick Henderson's success at the Palace, Blackpool, last week in the favourite ballad, "Old Pal."

FELDMAN'S

Great Character Comedy Song

ITALIAN SKIES

FEATURED WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY

FRED BARNES.

B. FELDMAN & CO.

FOOTLIGHT FLASHES.

The Comets.

Ally Benson's concert Party, "The Comets," are well known and extremely popular. The have a reputation to uphold, and dud songs cannot be entertained. That is why we find A.B. and his merry company in the ranks of Feldmanism. They know that the *right songs* are under the Feldman banner. This season you will hear them featuring—amongst other Feldman hits—"You Never Know," "Carrie From Lancashire," "The Little Tin Soldier," "Gingham Gown," "Amazon," "I Can't Make My Mind Up," "I Want Some Love," and "Backwards and Forwards."

Hope Vernon.

We heard Hope Vernon singing "Mississippi" the other evening, and felt that this capable and artistic performer had a song entirely suitable. There was unstinted applause when she finished.

Up in Aberdeen.

Harry Gordon writes to say that in the concert party at the Beach Pavilion, Aberdeen, Feldman numbers are in particular favour, "Ain't We Got Fun?" "Down Yonder," "Ma," and "The Sheik" exceptionally so.

Twenty-two Weeks Solid.

"I have been putting over 'Ain't We Got Fun?' for the past five weeks, and every night it has been the hit of the bill. Pleased to say I have just signed contract for twenty-two weeks solid." This letter, from J. H. Collins, the popular banjoist and coon vocalist, supplies eloquent testimony to the power of Feldmanism. Mr. Collins works "Moonlight" and other Feldman numbers as well.

In "The Circus Queen."

Evelyn Behenna, who explains that she is taking lead in "The Circus Queen"

LESLIE ALLEYN.

revue, says she is working "You've Got To Be Cute As Well As Beautiful" in that production. "At the Palace, Bath, it went fine," says Miss Behenna, "and altogether I am more than pleased with the song."

"All Excellent."

So says Lew Hedges, the popular juvenile lead, speaking of the new Feldman numbers. "I should like to work every one of them if that were possible," he continues, "but at New Theatre, Crewe, where we produce 'Reel Fun' on June 5, at least six of your fine songs will be in evidence."

"What a Winner!"

From Jack Vincent, "What a Night" company: "I put 'Tumble-down Shack' on here (Liverpool) Monday night, and what a winner! It went enormous, and proved the song-hit of the show. 'That's How I Believe In You' and 'Just Keep a Thought for Me' were also popular."

Six Calls.

Florence Smithson created a tremendous sensation at Victoria Palace last week in "The Sheik." On Tuesday night she was recalled six times. "The Sheik" and Florence Smithson form a great combination.

FELDMANISM THE SOURCE OF SUCCESS.

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